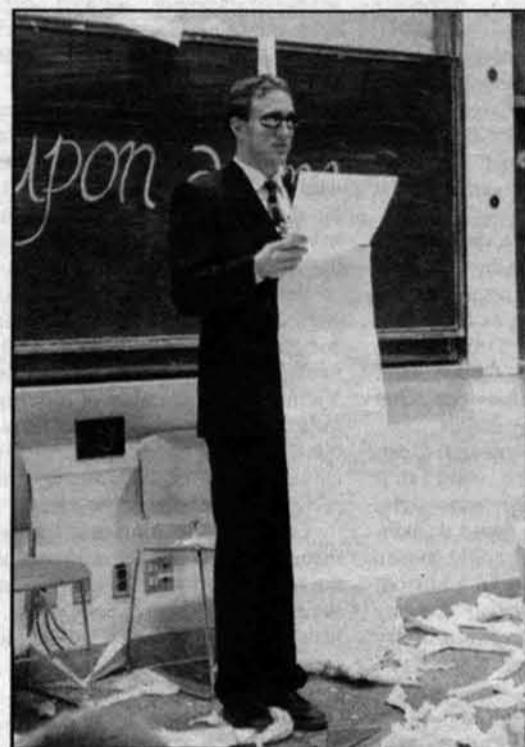


ON-CAMPUS REVIEW

Chorallaries: Bad Taste

An Equal Opportunity Offender for N Straight Years



"The list of people who will be offended" by the Chorallaries' Bad Taste concert ended with the all-inclusive disclaimer: "You."

By Amy Meadows

STAFF WRITER

The Chorallaries' Nth Annual Concert in Bad Taste was replete with chaos, violence, nudity, anarchy, and pornography... and that was before the real show even began.

With students lining the halls for the show for hours upon hours, it was inevitable that mayhem would ensue. As 11:59 p.m., the scheduled time for the concert, approached and passed, the crowd grew increasingly excitable, throwing everything from toilet paper (enough to rival a Halloween showing of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*) to Athena paper to a Jar Jar Binks raft onto the masses of people that lined the aisles and seats of room 10-250. Probably the largest crowd of people that I have ever seen simultaneously awake at MIT since the freshman class picture, the crowd represented a widely varied section of the Institute's population.

After the show started everyone was on equal footing: no one and nothing was sacred. Neither Mother Goose nor the Brass Rat escaped the Chorallaries' parodies. The skits and songs trampled through so many boundaries of decency, I could not hope to detail each one of them (nor would my editors print such descriptions). Just to give you a sense, however: Little Red Riding Hood? Crackwhore. Bert and Ernie? Gay Lovers. Cinderella? Dominatrix. For all the tastelessness, it did tend to be extremely entertaining, and worth the wait and the occasional pelting

Bad Taste, Page 13

Reel Big Fish Named as Opening Band for Spring Weekend Concert

By Matthew F. Palmer
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Reel Big Fish has been announced as the opening act for the venerable They Might Be Giants at this year's Spring Weekend concert.

The California band, who recently released their second album, *Everything Sucks*, will head to MIT after a brief performance series in Disneyland.

They Might Be Giants last performed at the Spring Concert seven years ago, after 10,000 Maniacs cancelled.

"Reel Big Fish should be a great compliment to They Might Be Giants," said Spring Weekend Committee co-chairman Douglas E. Heimburger '00.

Some students agreed, but others were less thrilled.

"I like They Might Be Giants," said Christopher S. Osborn '01. "I didn't like the last two years' bands."

"Reel Big Fish makes [the concert] a lot better," said Ellen E. Kim '03.

"I'm not familiar with Reel Big Fish," said David L. Ferris G. "But I'll probably participate in Spring Weekend."

"They Might Be Giants and Reel Big Fish are just twinkie rock," said Patrick J. Nichols '03.

The two bands mark a dramatic change from last year's headline

performer, hip-hop artist Busta Rhymes.

Tickets on sale after spring break

The weekend concert will be held Friday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Johnson Athletic Center.

Tickets will be sold at the Source beginning Tuesday, March 28 at noon. Prices are \$7 for MIT students and \$12 for guests with a valid college ID, Heimburger said.

Other Spring Weekend highlights include the International Student Association's International Fair, Alpha Chi Omega's lip sync contest, and the Johnson Games.

The Johnson Games, which will be held on Saturday April 29, features students, faculty, and staff competing in athletic and academic games. Over two thousand people participated in 1991, the last time the games were held. Heimburger said he expects an equally large turnout this year.

The games will be followed by a community wide barbecue at 2:30 p.m. Planning is also currently underway for a Saturday night party on multiple floors of the Student Center, funded in part by the Dormitory Council.

Spring Weekend is expected to cost \$60,000.

Money left over from last year's Spring Weekend helped to lower ticket costs this year, Heimburger said. \$30,000 will come

from a joint annual contribution from the Undergraduate Association and the Graduate Student Council, according to a press release.

Heimburger thought the wide range of activities would attract a

Spring Weekend, Page 22



SHIR SAMEACH (A JOYOUS SONG) — Members of B'Yachad, the Brandeis Israeli Folk Dance Troupe, perform at Boston's 24th annual Israel Folkdance Festival Sunday in Kresge Auditorium. The festival, featuring dancers of all ages from a variety of Boston-area groups, is sponsored by MIT Hillel.



RA stipends increased by six percent.

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Follow the road to the Final Four with men's and women's NCAA tournament brackets.

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WORLD & NATION

Gore Jabs NRA For Saying Clinton 'Needs' Killings

THE WASHINGTON POST

Vice President Gore struck back hard today at charges that the Clinton administration has deliberately ignored gun control violations in order to exploit the subsequent deaths for political gain.

At a campaign appearance this morning at Jackson Memorial Medical Center here, Gore responded to the charges made by National Rifle Association executive vice president Wayne LaPierre.

"I believe Mr. LaPierre's comment reveals a kind of sickness at the very heart of the NRA," Gore said.

In an appearance on ABC's "This Week" program yesterday, LaPierre said, "I believe [Clinton] needs a certain level of violence in this country. . . He's willing to accept a certain level of killing to further his political agenda."

While aides had eagerly promoted the fact that, although Gore planned to rap Texas Gov. George W. Bush on health care in today's hospital visit, the vice president was ready to shift gears to the subject of gun control.

California May Try Fourteen-Year-Olds as Adults

THE WASHINGTON POST

LOS ANGELES

With one punch of the ballot, California voters approved the nation's toughest crackdown on juvenile crime.

Teenagers as young as 14 now can be tried as adults more often for serious crimes and punished in adult prisons with automatic and longer sentences. In deciding whether to bring a juvenile to adult court, prosecutors, not judges, have been handed a larger slice of authority for the first time — a big shift in power.

Common offenses such as vandalism are being treated as felonies (if damages exceed \$400), minimum probation sentences are being lengthened, and youthful gang members face mandatory jail terms even if they are convicted of minor crimes. The names of juvenile suspects also can be disclosed publicly even before they are charged with wrongdoing.

The new rules, known as Proposition 21, easily won passage last week and take effect immediately. They make California the latest of many states in recent years to forsake a fundamental tenet of juvenile justice — that criminals so young can be rehabilitated — and to embrace far more punitive measures.

Parts of U.S. Face Worsening Drought, Officials Say

THE BALTIMORE SUN

WASHINGTON

Broad swaths of the United States, from Arizona to Georgia and from Nebraska to Ohio, face worsening drought conditions this spring, with potentially costly consequences for agriculture, navigation, water supplies and tourism, federal officials said Monday.

In its first-ever spring drought forecast, the U.S. Commerce Department said federal agencies are already mobilizing to provide drought assistance to the affected regions. Officials also urged state and local authorities to take steps to prepare for the expected water shortages.

"The news is not good," said Commerce Secretary William Daley. "The drought of 1999 remains with us in the new century, and our data indicate drought conditions are probably going to get worse before they get better."

Maryland and Virginia — hit hard by drought last summer — are not included in the federal drought warning. But both states are expected to get less rain than normal this spring, continuing a pattern of scarce rains that began in July 1998.

More of the Same

By Peter Huybers

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Today's morning sunshine will give way to clouds and a chance of rain this afternoon. Highs will be in the upper 40s (8–10°C) and lows tonight in the upper 30s (3–5°C). Winds will be out of the South at 10 to 15 mph. Wednesday will also be mostly cloudy and with a higher chance of rain. Expect highs in the lower 50s (10–12°C) and lows in the lower 40s (4–6°C). Looking to Thursday, we will experience a breezy and mild day with highs reaching 60°F (16°C).

Tuesday: Sunny then cloudy. High 48°F (9°C). Low 37°F (3°C).
Wednesday: Mostly cloudy. High 52°F (11°C). Low 40°F (4°C).
Thursday: Breezy and mild. High 60°F (16°C).

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	— — Trough	Snow	Fog
L Low Pressure	Waves	Rain	Thunderstorm
S Hurricane	▲▲▲ Cold Front	Shower	Haze
	▲▲▲ Stationary Front	Light	
		Moderate	
		Heavy	

U.S. Defense Secretary Begins Vietnam Visit Amid Fanfare

By Paul Richter

LOS ANGELES TIMES

HANOI

A U.S. defense secretary flew into Vietnam on Monday for the first time since 1971 in hopes of building relations with the armed forces that once humbled the world's most powerful military.

On the eve of the 25th anniversary of the war's end, Defense Secretary William S. Cohen was received by Vietnamese Minister of Defense Gen. Pham Van Tra. Cohen expressed his hope for development of military ties that would mark a final stage of normalization.

Side by side in front of a graceful French colonial government guesthouse, Cohen and Tra stood at attention as a Vietnamese army band played a spirited "Star Spangled Banner." The single-starred red banner of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam fluttered lazily overhead as the defense chiefs followed a goose-stepping officer on a red carpet around the courtyard in a review of Vietnamese army and navy units.

Although Cohen insisted he was not going to dwell on a past that has "scarred both our countries," powerful symbols of the war were at hand. The three-day visit comes just as the

Vietnamese are beginning a seven-week official celebration of their country's victory in the war.

Though a 90-minute meeting at the guest house was cordial, officials said progress on a joint agenda was modest, and that the meeting also showed the wariness of the Vietnamese leadership — especially the military.

"There is a sensitivity, and somewhat of a suspicion as to American motives for returning here," U.S. Ambassador Pete Peterson, a former prisoner of war in Hanoi, told reporters earlier in the day.

The talks between the defense chiefs took place after three years of effort by Cohen, who began pushing for a meeting as soon as he entered office in early 1997. Two previous dates were canceled, though there have been contacts between other U.S. and Vietnamese officials.

Leaders of the Vietnamese Communist regime are wary that stronger ties with other nations and the global economy could destabilize the country and could loosen their grip on power. In addition, they are highly sensitive that any hint of U.S.-Vietnamese military alliance might arouse Chinese fears

of encirclement.

To try to dispel that kind of anxiety, Cohen said without mentioning China by name that the relationship should remain fully in the open.

Officials said there is no talk of the United States helping the Vietnamese with new weapons. Peterson predicted, however, that U.S. warships might pay their first post-war port call to Vietnam within as little as a year.

The last U.S. defense secretary to visit the country was Melvin Laird, in the Nixon administration, who visited South Vietnam in 1971. No defense secretary is known to have ever before visited Hanoi or the north, officials said.

Peterson said Cohen's meetings were heavy in symbolism "that is not going to be missed by the Vietnamese people." And though the Vietnamese leadership is moving only slowly to expand contacts, "you couldn't have imagined this happening four or five years ago, or perhaps two years ago," he said.

Cohen said America's "paramount" interest in Vietnam remains the continuing joint effort to recover the remains of 1,500 service members who are missing in action and suspected lost in the country.

U.S. Officials Support Koehler, Second German IMF Candidate

By John Burgess and William Drozdiak

THE WASHINGTON POST

The United States Monday threw its support behind Horst Koehler, Germany's second candidate for the top job at the International Monetary Fund, effectively securing the job for him and ending a months-old feud that has strained relations between the two Atlantic allies.

U.S. officials had earlier raised questions about Koehler, who heads a bank that lends to Eastern Europe. But in a telephone call to German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder Monday, President Clinton pledged U.S. backing and suggested that Koehler come to Washington as soon as possible to meet IMF board

members and try to garner support from developing countries, White House spokesman Joe Lockhart said.

Washington's move came just a few hours after European finance ministers meeting in Brussels formally endorsed the 57-year-old German banker for the job, which by tradition is held by a European.

Washington thus faced the choice of getting on board or moving toward a repeat of the bruising confrontation earlier this month over Germany's original candidate. Deputy Finance Minister Caio Koch-Weser withdrew last week after the United States publicly declared him unfit for the job.

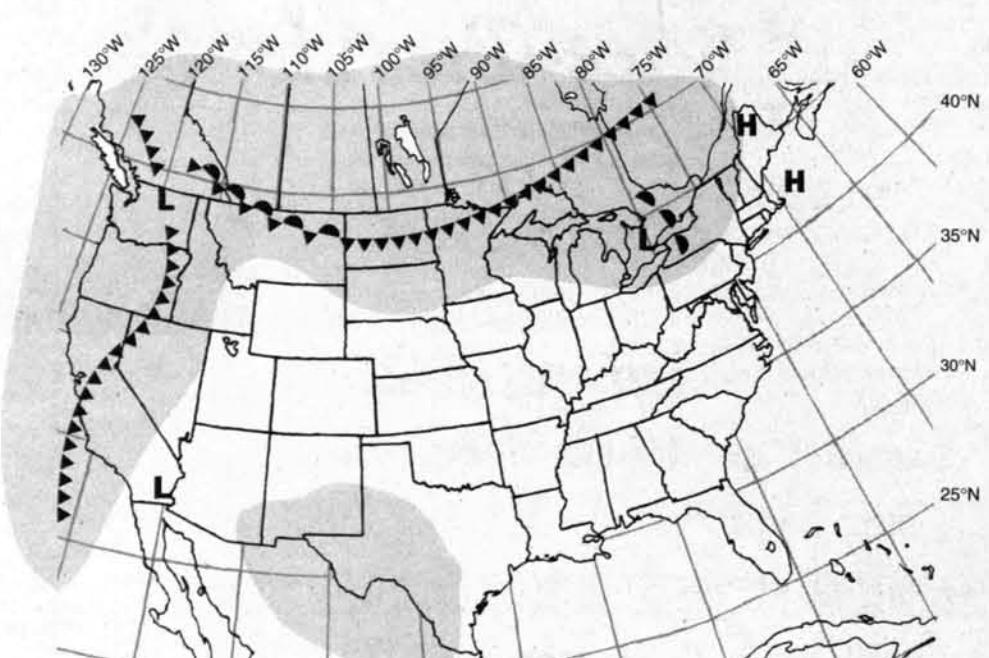
The Washington-based IMF is emergency lender to the world.

With jumbo bailout loans, it played the lead role in pulling country after country back from financial meltdown during panics that began in 1997. The fight over the top job comes at a time when critics, including some administration and congressional leaders, are calling for reforms at the IMF, such as a paring down its mission.

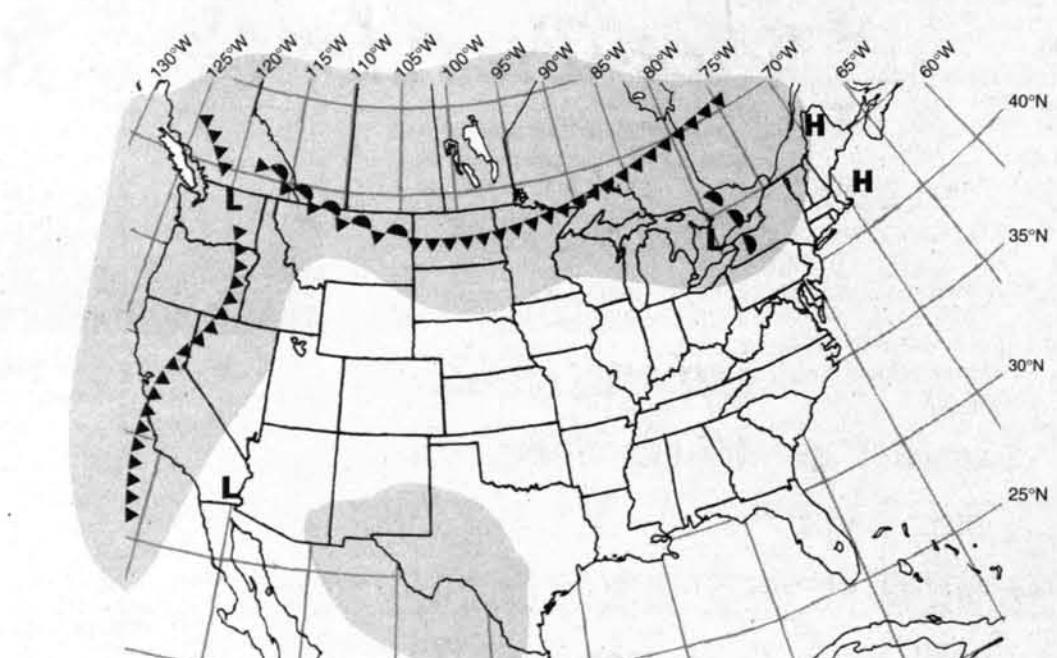
Koehler has a solid resume in international finance, having worked closely with former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on the adoption of the euro currency and now running a major international lending institution, the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development. U.S. officials felt that his qualifications were in an entirely different class than Koch-Weser's.

WEATHER

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, March 14, 2000



Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, March 14, 2000



Independent Counsel Concludes 'Filegate' Scandal Investigation

By Lorraine Adams
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Independent counsel Robert W. Ray announced Monday that he has concluded his investigation into White House staff members' misuse of FBI files on Republican appointees. Sources familiar with the probe said no criminal wrongdoing was found.

Ray said in a statement that he was "prohibited from talking about the contents of the report," which he plans to file this week.

The investigation focused on the White House's then-director of personnel security, Craig Livingstone, and his then-aide, Anthony B. Marceca, who improperly obtained about 900 FBI background files on Republican political appointees in 1993 and 1994.

One of the questions examined

by Ray was who was responsible for hiring Livingstone, a former campaign advance worker, and whether first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton had any role in recommending him for the job. She has maintained she had nothing to do with Livingstone's employment or with the acquisition of the files.

The White House has said the files were never used and were not collected to attack political adversaries. Rather, the White House claims the files were obtained because of bureaucratic blunders.

The report on the FBI files will be the first in a series on the Clinton administration and Whitewater that Ray will file with a panel of three federal judges overseeing his office. The reports will not be made public immediately.

Ray has decided to release the reports in an order that reflects the

complexity of the investigations, with the most easily concluded cases coming first, and those more difficult to conclude coming last, according to sources familiar with the probes.

In appointing Ray last October to succeed Kenneth W. Starr, one member of the judicial panel expressed interest in seeing the independent counsel's work concluded expeditiously. Ray is releasing the reports in segments to send a signal that he is making substantial progress in ending the six-year investigation. But he also will be resurrecting old allegations in the heat of Vice President Al Gore's White House bid and Hillary Clinton's New York Senate race.

The second report, expected to be released in late spring or early summer, will concern the White House travel office scandal.

Report Says NASA Conducted Mars Missions Too Cheaply

LOS ANGELES TIMES

NASA took undue risks by working on major space missions too quickly and too cheaply, an independent investigation, commissioned in the wake of an embarrassing string of failed missions, concluded Monday.

The report blames recent failures, including the loss of the Mars Polar Lander and the Mars Climate Orbiter last year, on poor communication and mistakes in engineering and management that might have been avoided with better management, fewer shortcuts and more realistic deadlines and budgets.

"The current mission failure rate is too high and must be reduced," said the report, written by Tony Spear, a retired National Aeronautics and Space Administration official who successfully led the 1997 Mars Pathfinder mission. "Failing due to mistakes is not tolerable."

A second report, also released Monday, offered a scathing assessment of the failure of the Mars Climate Orbiter, specifically blaming poor communication and a lack of teamwork for the simple math error that doomed the \$125-million craft.

Yet both reports stood firmly behind the "faster, better, cheaper" approach — if it is properly managed. The approach, introduced by NASA Administrator Daniel S. Goldin in 1992, marked a shift away from running a few large, costly missions to running more smaller, cheaper missions.

Hospital Criticized in Drug Research Trial on Homeless

NEWSDAY

NEW YORK

Psychiatric researchers in the emergency room at Bellevue Hospital Center in Manhattan failed to follow protocol when they enrolled patients — almost half of them homeless — in a drug research trial, an investigation by the New York State Department of Health has found.

In a report obtained by Newsday, state investigators criticized Bellevue, saying the hospital did not consistently document that it had obtained proper informed consent from emergency room patients before admitting them into a clinical trial for a drug manufactured by a major New Jersey pharmaceutical company. The Bellevue trial was completed in 1999.

Established research procedures require scientists to fully inform people of the risks they may incur by participating in medical trials.

The state began its investigation at the request of Disability Advocates Inc., an Albany patient-advocacy group. Rob Kenny, a state health department spokesman, confirmed the report's contents.

Bellevue spokeswoman Lorinda Klein said the hospital recently received the report and will develop a corrective action plan. She noted the state had not found that the researchers had denied the patients their rights — as disability advocates had charged.

State investigators reviewed the records of 16 patients enrolled in the trial for iloperidone, an anti-psychotic medication manufactured by the pharmaceutical company Novartis of Hanover, N.J.

China to Seek WTO Membership Regardless of American Support

By Clay Chandler
THE WASHINGTON POST

BEIJING

China's top trade official declared Monday that Beijing will press for entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO) this year, with or without the blessing of the U.S. Congress, and issued a blunt warning that U.S. failure to permanently reduce tariffs on Chinese exports would cost American businesses access to "the tremendous market of China."

Shi Guang-sheng, China's minister for foreign trade and economic cooperation, said Beijing will seek admission to the 135-member body that governs global trade regardless of whether U.S. lawmakers support a White House proposal that would permanently grant China the same

low-tariff privileges enjoyed by other American trading partners.

But he hinted that if Congress refuses to grant China normal trade status, Beijing would retaliate by invoking a WTO rule allowing it to maintain stiff tariffs on American firms attempting to do business in China — a result he said the U.S. would "regret for 20 years."

"If the U.S. misses this opportunity, it will actually lose the tremendous market of China and will be giving away the opportunity for participating in this market to its competitors," Shi said at a news conference for foreign journalists at China's Great Hall of the People.

Shi's comments, offered as part of his briefing on the deliberations at this year's National Peoples' Congress, departed from past state-

ments by China's leaders. Until Monday morning, trade officials in Beijing had avoided discussing the possibility that they might press for WTO entry without the U.S. Congress supporting normal trade relations. Instead, they had stressed that it was important to secure both WTO membership and permanent reciprocal trade status with the United States.

Analysts in Beijing and Hong Kong said Shi's remarks reflect Beijing's growing frustration with the Washington's inability to resolve the normal trade question. There was wide agreement that both countries would suffer if Beijing were to follow through with Shi's veiled threat. But some experts argued that the United States might prove the bigger loser.

Graduate Student Council 00-01 Elections

Officer Positions Nomination Open Until March 29

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* Vice-President
* Secretary
* Treasurer

Interested?

- Contact gsc-officers@mit.edu

- Come to our

"MEET THE OFFICERS COFFEE HOUR"

On March 27, 5:30pm, 50-220.

Committees Select Their Leadership This Week!

Contact us if you are interested!

Orientation (OC)- March 14

50-220, 5pm
gsc-oc-chair@mit.edu

Housing and Community Affairs (HCA)- March 15

Ashdown, Crafts Lounge, 5:30pm
gsc-hca-chair@mit.edu

Academics, Research, and Careers (ARC)- March 16

50-220, 5:30pm
gsc-arc-chair@mit.edu

OPINION

Save Steer Roast

Changes proposed by the administration to Steer Roast would destroy a cherished MIT tradition. We challenge the administration to allow Steer Roast to continue at its Senior House location with all its traditional festivities.

Editorial

The administration's drastic changes to the Steer Roast event would eliminate the atmosphere of debauchery that is the hallmark of the event. The Johnson barbecue pits or the Student Center, venues suggested by Dean of Students Margaret R. Bates for this year's Steer Roast, are no substitutes for the Senior House courtyard. Catering the event and removing the roasting of the steer — the namesake of the event — would totally alter the spirit of Steer Roast.

The MIT Safety Office claims the size of the steer roast fire, and the fire's proximity to ledges on which people sit, are the causes for the proposed changes. However, as noted by Steer Roast organizer Blake R. Brasher '01, the event has a clean safety record. Administrators have also cited concerns about more stringent enforcement of parties by the Cambridge

Licensing Commission, but if those regulations present a problem, the Institute could certainly work out a compromise with the city government.

Instead, we believe one of the principal reasons for the changes to Steer Roast is the administration's desire to change student behavior. MIT, willing in the media spotlight, does not want to be associated with a loud, raunchy party, and instead wants its students to socialize in ways more acceptable to the administration. If this is the administration's concern, it should be honest with the student body and not cloak its intentions in vague concerns of "safety." The administration should recall that Steer Roast has been a safe event and that while reasonable precautions should be supported by all, it should not destroy an institution beloved by many students simply to sport a better face for the media.

Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72 has talked about the need to build more "community" at MIT. Steer Roast is one event at which hundreds of MIT students find the community they desire. The administration must realize that Steer Roast is a positive community-building event in no need of reform.

An Apology from Prof. Lodish

Shame on Professor Harvey F. Lodish for rushing to accuse students in his Cell Biology (7.06) class of cheating — a crime of which they were totally innocent.

Editorial

On March 2, the antsy Lodish declared before his class that someone had broken into the course's computer system, and that the grades of about 20 students had been lowered while two students' grades had been raised. He said the Dean's Office had identified those whose grades were raised, and assured the students of 7.06 that punishment was coming to the guilty parties.

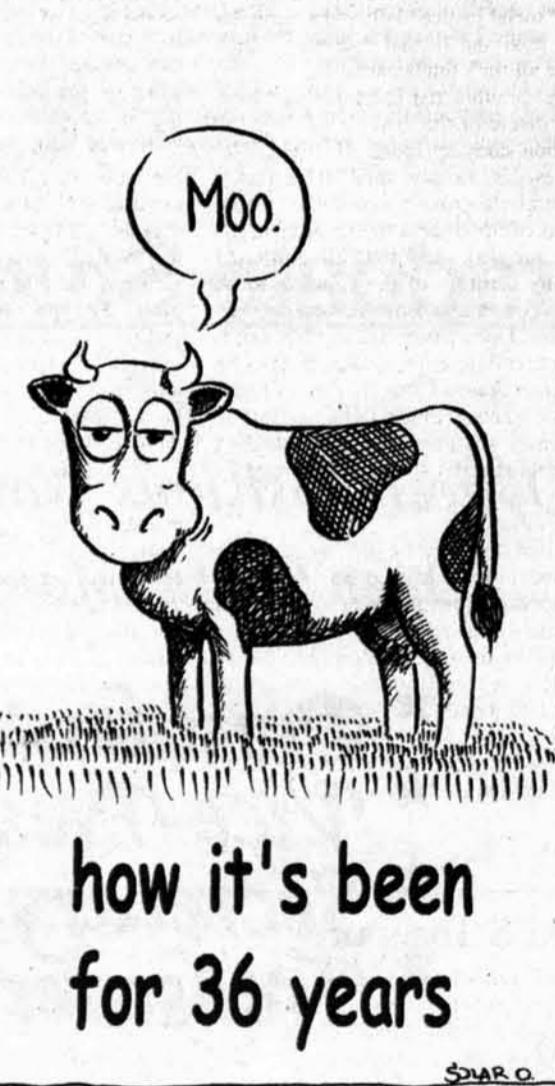
Last week, however, Lodish sheepishly admitted that students had not cheated in his class. Instead, he revealed that human error in sorting a spreadsheet caused the grade discrep-

ancies. All 7.06 students were declared innocent of Lodish's charges, and he apologized to the class.

But Lodish's recklessness quickly reached far beyond 7.06. The story of the alleged cheating was broadcast on National Public Radio and also appeared in *The Boston Globe*. Lodish's hasty rush to blame his own class marred the reputation of all MIT students, whose colleagues were wrongly accused in this affair.

We believe that even students not associated with the Cell Biology course have had their integrity impugned by Lodish's rash accusations, and therefore an apology from Professor Lodish to the entire student body is necessary. Further, this sad affair should warn other Institute administrators and professors not to rush to judgment by accusing students of cheating.

MIT administration's Steer Roast fears



Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board.

Dissents are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Columns are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and may be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions may be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cam-

bridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach us; send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu. *The Tech* can be found online at <http://the-tech.mit.edu>.

Erratum

A feature story about the MIT Chorale ["Bad Taste and Perfect Pitch," 7 March, 2000] incorrectly identified the director of the group. Jennifer M. Bonnell '01 is the director.



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Bob Jones's True Colors

Veena Thomas

George W. Bush was heavily criticized for appearing at Bob Jones University, a non-accredited college known for being racist and anti-Catholic. He made no attempt to distance himself from any of the philosophies of the university, perhaps leading some people to think he supported the college's beliefs. Though Bush denied the allegations, and subsequently apologized, the image remained in the public's eye.

Not sure how a university could be both racist and anti-Catholic, and get away with it, I decided to do some research. I located the college's website <http://www.bju.edu> and began to browse. Not surprisingly, the site had an entire section devoted to recent press coverage and in defense of the institution. Bob Jones III, president of Bob Jones University, wrote a formal press release in support of his college. It reads like a used car salesman's pitch — Bob Jones manages to alienate half of the people in his speech whom he so desperately needs to convince to support his college. While championing religious freedom in the US, he mocks Islam, Judaism, and Roman Catholicism, as he wonders why some of their fundamental beliefs have not been attacked sooner.

Wait... isn't he supposed to be trying to

convince us that he and his university are not anti-Catholic?

Religious freedom and allowing others to believe and practice what they want is one of the ideas upon which this country was founded. Yet if Bob Jones kept insisting that he was not anti-Catholic, what would cause others to think so? There must be a complication here.

Sure enough, upon reading a transcript of Larry King interviewing Bob Jones, I found a clue. Stated Larry King, "But if you call the pope the anti-Christ you will offend Catholics..." Instead of refuting this statement, or denying he had ever done such a thing, he instead supported himself. "Yes, but you know, ... Article VI of the Westminster Confession calls the pope an anti-Christ," retorted Jones. Not anti-Catholic? His repeated denials of anti-Catholic beliefs were fast wearing thin, especially when he could hardly make it through a denial without bashing Catholics. Undoubtedly his case wasn't helped when Larry King asked, "Did you call George W. Bush's father a devil?" and Jones replied, "You know I did."

Bob Jones seemed very confused by Larry King and managed to trip up often and look like an idiot. As Jones later ranted and raved about all of the liberals at Harvard and Yale, King had to remind him that George W. Bush graduated from Yale. Jones had nothing to

counter with except "Well, it's possible for a man to come through the system and not buy into it."

What about the allegations of racism? In the course of defending himself from such allegations, Jones managed to insinuate that blacks and other races come from broken homes and abusive families. Is he clueless at how to support himself, or does he just have opinions too strong to hide for very long? What exactly were the allegations?

Apparently Bob Jones University has had an official ban on interracial dating for many years. Its justification: "We stand against the one-world government, against the coming world of anti-Christ, which is a one world system of blending of all differences, of blending of national differences, economic differences, church differences, into a big one ecumenical world."

BGU says it would prefer to keep the races separate. As a student put it, "My own personal belief is that God has made races perfect. God has made whites perfect and blacks and Orientals, and he hasn't given us any reason to intermix those races."

"But he has made them perfect. It's not a policy that discriminates against the whites or the blacks or the Orientals, but it's a policy that is equal to all three of the races." Excuse me — all three of the races? Don't they teach

students at BJU that not everyone falls so neatly into one of those three categories?

After the media spotlight hit BJU, suddenly the ban on interracial dating was dropped. Their sudden decision to eliminate the ban troubled me almost as much as their having it. Said Jones, "We have a broader testimony. And if all anybody can see is this rule, which we never talk about or preach, which most of our students couldn't even tell you what it is... Why should we have this here as an obstacle?"

If Jones claims the rule is so insignificant, then why was it implemented for so many years, and why do students have such strong views favoring the ban? On the reverse side, if the rule was so important to the university, as is seemingly implied by its existence, why did they instantly eliminate it when attacked? What about standing up for your beliefs? What does Bob Jones III really stand for? Does he have the strength to stand for anything?

What bothers me most is that someone like Bob Jones can preach what he likes, including prejudice and animosity towards other religions, and can shape the minds of impressionable college students, all under the guise of freedom of religion. Where do we draw the line?

Sadly, Bob Jones can stand on his soapbox and preach what he likes, and no one can stop him.

The Fiction of Social Justice

Guest Column
Richard Stone

Recent articles in *The Tech* regarding the Mumia Abu-Jamal case, by Michael Borucke ["Why Mumia Matters," Nov. 23, 1999], Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, by William Hafer ["A Lesson from Hurricane," Mar. 3], and the recent secret study on alleged MIT discrimination against women, by Susan Buchman ["Twenty Irrelevant Pages," Jan. 19] and Aimee Smith ["Another Look at Gender Inequity in Science," Feb. 29], provide a depressing reminder of the pervasiveness on American campuses of a fundamentalism as rigid as that of any biblical creationist, namely that of the "social justice" left; and a reminder of the bad faith and factual distortion which characterize all such fundamentalism.

Take first Smith's and Buchman's articles, seeking to discredit the critique of the MIT discrimination study by Judith Kleinfeld. Kleinfeld's thesis is, simply, that MIT's report was prepared by a group a majority of whom were active complainants in the allegations they were judging, and that all evidence allowing any scrutiny of the claim is to be kept secret. Smith and Buchman join President Vest and Dean Birgeneau in their extraordinary contention, expressed in a letter to the *Wall Street Journal*, that this doesn't violate the basic tenets of either science or justice merely because the panel was composed of eminent scientists, and secrecy was allegedly needed for reasons of privacy and fear of retaliation.

To be blunt, this is not a conception either of the scientific method or of the most elementary aspects of justice with which I am familiar. Indeed it is hard not to perceive substantial bad faith on display when one considers the following simple thought experiment: suppose that to judge the allegations a panel had been convened of equally impressive scientists, but who were interested parties as defendants against the charge of discrimina-

tion by their departments, and suppose they had issued a report absolving MIT while demanding their evidence remain secret. Such a panel would have met every single one of the criteria that Smith, Buchman, Vest and Birgeneau claim to find sufficient to validate the scientific and moral integrity of their report. Yet is there a soul alive who thinks that Smith, Buchman or any of their allied feminist groups (let alone the national media) would have accepted its conclusions as legitimate?

Much more morally troubling in turn are the articles by Hafer and Borucke on Rubin Carter and Mumia Abu-Jamal. Hafer finds Carter almost Christ-like in his suffering, decency and compassion, convinced entirely on the basis of the recent Hollywood film that he was framed for murder by a brutally racist police system. It may then be a shock for him to learn that almost every event depicted in that film is false.

For example, Carter was tried as a youth not for bravely defending himself and a friend against a child molester, but for brutally assaulting a bystander with a bottle and stealing his watch, one of nearly 20 youthful convictions, many of them for assaults and muggings. The policeman who oversaw the gathering of evidence in his trial, depicted as a vicious racist in the film and by Hafer, and now dead so he cannot defend himself, is not known to have said or thought a single racist thing in his entire life.

Indeed, there is something truly disturbing in the casualness with which Hafer charges every policeman, juror and judge involved in Carter's trials with racism without feeling obliged to state a solitary piece of substantiating evidence or to detail a single element of the alleged "strong evidence" exonerating Carter. The jury impanelled at Carter's second trial was not all-white as the movie depicts, nor was Carter ultimately found innocent in a federal trial. Rather, he had an appeal for a third trial granted on rather technical and highly debatable grounds which the prosecu-

tion ultimately chose not to challenge only because several witnesses had died and Carter was already approaching parole. And on and on.

On these lines it would be interesting to know if, during the recent speech which Hafer found so compelling, Carter described at all the circumstances under which, in 1976 (as reported by leading black journalist Chuck Stone and confirmed in recent interviews by the victim herself) he beat within an inch of death a small woman Carolyn Kelley, whose sole provocation had been to dedicate a year of her life to winning a retrial for a man she had thought until then to be a fellow black man ensnared by racism. Perhaps Carter did not have time, or perhaps Hafer forgot to ask.

And yet for sheer factual distortion, even this case pales by comparison with that made on behalf of Mumia Abu-Jamal by Borucke. He claims that officer Daniel Faulkner and Mumia's brother were shot to death (in fact, Mumia's brother was unharmed) and that at Mumia's trial "crucial evidence was suppressed," "Mumia could not represent himself," and "witnesses gave false testimony" in a "joke" of a trial. Borucke fails to give any details in his column, but suffice to say that every one of these claims is false, and easily verifiable as such by anyone who, unlike Borucke, chooses to examine the transcript of the 1998 Pennsylvania Supreme Court appeal hearing.

Mumia was allowed to represent himself until his repeated threats and intimidation towards jurors and judge necessitated his removal, even after which he was allowed to closely supervise his defense. No evidence was suppressed at his trial, and if this is, as I presume, a reference to the allegation that the murder bullet was a .44, not a .38 matching Mumia's gun, it should be noted that this pervasive myth has long been debunked. The bullet exactly matched the groove, rifling characteristics and special type of Mumia's gun which was found with five spent cartridges next to the dead man as

Jamal lay wounded wearing his empty holster.

Finally, as for the accusations that the police bribed and threatened witnesses into framing Jamal, this is based on an alleged 1997 confession by one such witness, Cynthia White. It was effectively refuted at the 1998 hearing by producing a death certificate showing that White had died in 1992.

Given the absence of any detailed discussion of the case and the factual falsehood of what little is provided, one can only wonder at the preposterous conspiracy fantasies which made up the bulk of Borucke's column.

What all three of these "social justice" causes share is the fundamentalist's belief that their ideological convictions are the true reality, and that facts are only relevant insofar as they conform. Smith and Buchman don't believe one should study the evidence in a report in order to determine if MIT's practices are indeed sexist. Rather, they know axiomatically that this is so, with evidence entirely dispensable when the right conclusions have been reached.

Hafer and Borucke believe with such blind fervor in the truth of their worldview, of monolithic police racism and dark conspiracies to oppress the weak, that they absolve themselves of any obligation to inquire honestly about the specific facts of any particular case, while simultaneously completely ignoring any cases that do not fit their preconceived ideological framework.

In the end, no notion of justice is served simply by penning exaggerated articles striking ostentatious moral poses against the cosmic injustices of racism and sexism in the fashion displayed in these four; nor by casually demonizing all who disagree as bigoted and evil (a habit evident in all too many of *The Tech*'s opinion columns); nor, finally, by neglecting the elementary duty of investigating in detail the merits of each specific issue, policy or case being considered.

Richard Stone received a master's degree in 1996 from the Mathematics Department.

Letters To The Editor

AFS Insecure

Kyle Rose writes that the Andrew File System (AFS) "protects the privacy of each of its users." ["Windows 'Unreliable,' Doesn't Support AFS," Mar. 10]. I disagree. While AFS authentication is encrypted, the actual data is transmitted in plain text over the network, visible to all. As a result, even SSH is insecure, as the random seed used for SSH encryption is stored on AFS. Privacy is nonexistent.

Jim Paris '03

No Steer Roast is Ethnic Cleansing'

So the administration wants to cancel Steer Roast ["Institute Threatens Steer Roast," March 10]. Don't tell me you didn't see it coming.

I would encourage those of you who are old enough to remember to think back to, say,

1995. Every weekend there were multiple parties, held at dorms, Cambridge and Boston fraternities, in the Student Center, and elsewhere. MIT's social scene was large and vibrant — a single glance at any Infinite Corridor bulletin board made that clear. Events were student-organized, student-run and student-funded.

All of that disappeared when MIT held the anvil of "liability" above every single student's head. Fear, uncertainty and doubt, propelled by Scott Krueger's death, gave MIT the golden opportunity it needed to kick off a radical new authoritarian program. Now, the only parties that are allowed are ones that have the stamp of approval of the administration. There no longer is such a thing as a party run by students, for students, for whatever damn reason students can dream up.

And now, the one remaining old-school MIT party, MIT's most famous, most storied, and still one of the best-attended, is about to be ground under the boot heel of the bureau-

rats. No amount of fulminating about safety and liability by MIT will cover up the real truth — that this is one of the last remaining steps in MIT's astonishingly successful plan to gain complete control over you.

If Steer Roast goes, the administration's sanitization of Institute culture and thought will have come to fruition. Congratulations, Mr. Vest! Your ethnic cleansing of MIT is complete.

Kevin McCormick '99

Why Publicize 7.06 Incident?

I read with interest your coverage of the recent "cheating scandal" in 7.06 ["Human Error Revealed as Cause of 7.06 Scandal," Mar. 10]. The incident raises one overarching question in my mind: why in the world did MIT make this incident public? MIT

spokespersons thought it was a cheating scandal, but in fact they had only circumstantial evidence and had not even done a formal investigation. When they completed the investigation, they found that their initial assumption was wrong, and that they had made fools of themselves and of the Institute. Why were they so unable to proceed with caution that they were willing to make a tentative suspicion into national news? Why didn't they give MIT students' reputation the benefit of the doubt?

This irresponsible action by the News Office, and by whoever put the story there, serves only to bolster the outside media's favorite caricature of MIT students as irresponsible adolescents, more smart-alecky than smart, who take a cavalier attitude toward life and are in need of constant supervision to prevent them from behaving recklessly. Has the administration come to believe this caricature?

MIT students and alumni deserve a candid answer.

Jeremy D. Sher '99

Who had the greatest impact in the equity markets in 1999?

#1 in IPOs: Priced 58 IPOs, more than any other firm in one year.

#1 in aftermarket performance: An average 250% increase for lead-managed IPOs and secondary offerings.

#1 increase in market share: Largest percentage increase in total equity underwriting volume versus any other firm.

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FEATURES

By Katie Jeffreys
STAFF REPORTER

The average undergraduate student at MIT, amid classes, fraternity parties, and cafeteria food, is buffered from what some might call 'the real world.' Yet some MIT undergraduate and graduate students lead a different lifestyle, focused on family, which may consist of spouses, children, or both. There are many resources on campus to assist families at MIT.

One of these groups, Spouses and Partners@ MIT, formerly the Wives Group, offers support to the wives of students, postdocs, and visiting faculty. The group changed their name this month to move the focus from simply the wives to include husbands, boyfriends, and gay and lesbian partners. In addition, the women in the group did not want to be only characterized simply as wives, and felt that their identities extend beyond that role. The group however does not target married women who are themselves enrolled at the Institute or unwed mothers.

Spouses & Partners @ MIT allows participants to "make friends and build a life here," said Jennifer Recklet, the group's secretary. This is accomplished through interest groups (such as cooking or movies), English lunch tables (for international members who want to learn English), and child play groups. In addition to Recklet, a social worker provides administrative to support to the group. Jessica Barton gives one-on-one consultations for depression, fertility issues, marriage counseling, and abortion advice.

In addition the group serves to refer people to resources at MIT and in the community.

Undergraduate student uses peers' support

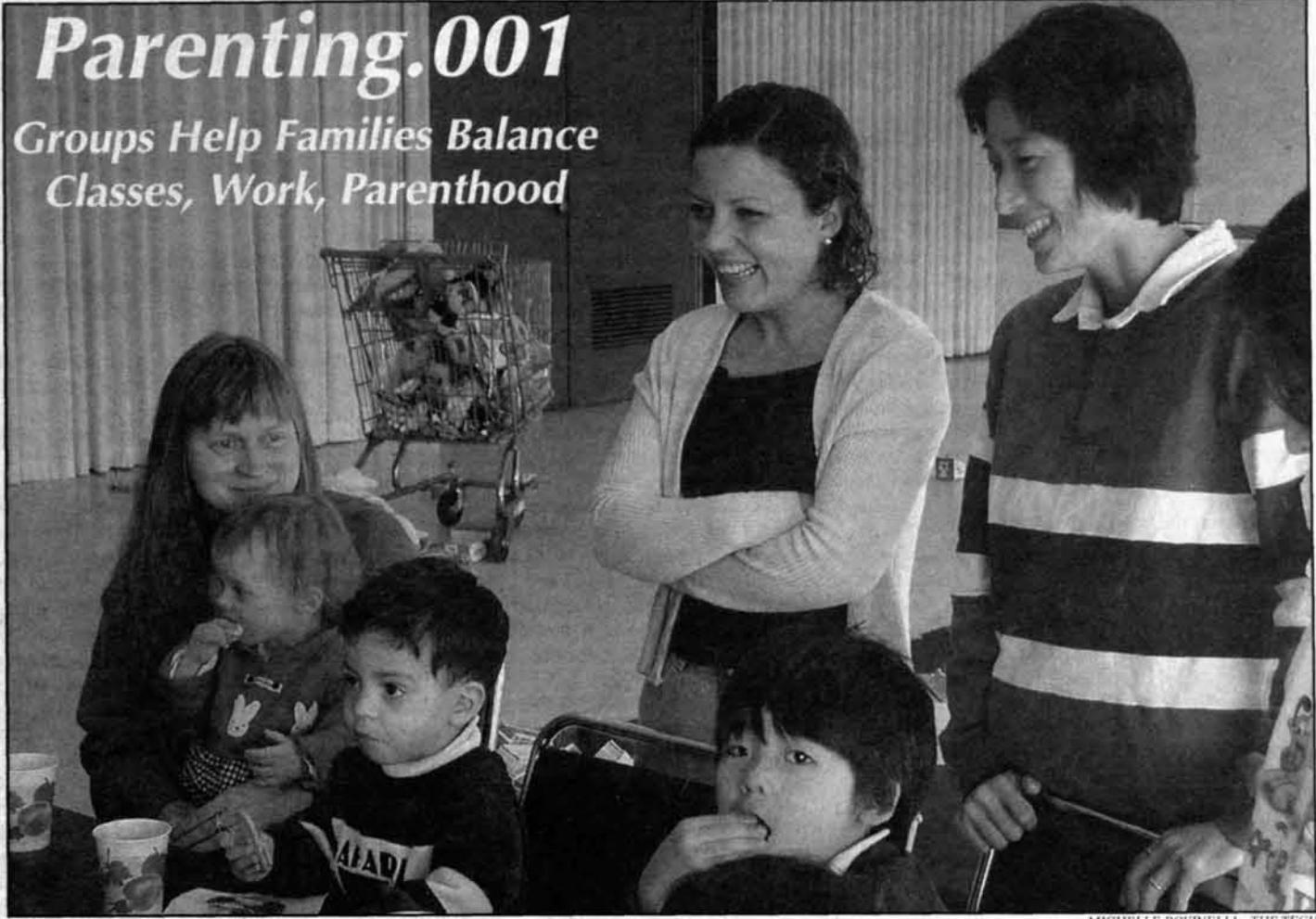
In the fall Noramay J. Cadena '03 made headlines because she decided to come to MIT bringing with her a child who was born while Cadena was still in high school. Since then, Cadena has had to deal not only with the pressures of being a freshman at a competitive university but with being the mother of a toddler. Her daughter, named Chassity, is now a year and a half old.

"Initially I got in touch with the Family Resource Center" to find day care, but since her daughter was not old enough for many centers and she has no transportation, their options were not helpful. Instead, she turned to student groups on campus, including La Unión Chicana por Aztlán, Mujeres Latinas, and Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists. Fellow students in these organizations offer their friendship as well as babysitting.

Cadena said that they are "students like me. They know what kind of family I have." This sort of support helps her cope with her lifestyle, which she describes as rather routine and often difficult.

Parenting.001

Groups Help Families Balance Classes, Work, Parenthood



MICHELLE POVINELLI—THE TECH

Loni Butera and her daughter Lara, Vitoria Ferraz and her son Gabriel, and Mika Koyama and her son Yuka participate in the MIT Spouses and Partners Playgroup yesterday.

"It's really easy in the day. She's at the babysitter while I'm at class." However because of the cost of a private babysitter, Cadena must limit the number of hours her daughter spends there. This means that her participation in evening meetings, office hours, and spontaneous events are restricted. Cadena added that "I wait for her to go to bed before I do work, so I am up late a lot."

"It's hard. If students are thinking about having a kid, I would recommend not to," said Cadena. She recognizes that her life would be different without a child in that she would be "doing better in school, maybe doing sports and extracurriculars, and going out."

In addition, Cadena says that as a result of the media focus on her, "I feel pressured. People are watching me, and if I make a mistake, everyone will say 'I saw it coming.'"

Graduate students use support of community

David W. Robinson G, Floor Tutor for the first floor of Baker House is raising a daughter

at MIT with his wife Sara. They are expecting another child in May. Robinson says "Hanna has had an impact on the people in Baker House," especially those who have a chance to play with her during the day.

Yet the charms of a child on the MIT campus are far reaching. "I can go walking around campus with Hanna and random people I have no idea who they are will say 'Hi, Hanna,'" said Robinson. Students have been able to watch Hanna, now three, grow and learn over the years, adopting her in Baker House trivia games as its youngest resident.

While the family has not taken advantage of the programs offered by MIT to support families, they did live in both Eastgate and Westgate, which are MIT's family housing. "You really get to know your neighbors well," said Robinson, adding that this is beneficial because "your peers there are going through some of the same things. Friends in off-campus apartments don't have the same sense of community."

In addition to peer groups and Spouses and Partners @ MIT, there are many services offered at MIT to assist families. The Family Resource Center provides assistance child care and school information and advice on parenting and balancing work and family.

Because many undergraduates are not associated with having families, resources may be deemed applicable only to graduate students or those not taking a full course load. Rae Simpson, Co-Administrator of the Family Resource Center said that "we are seeing more undergraduates who have partners or children in the last couple years that we had in the past." Because of this, the FRC offers support in balancing family with traditional employment with as well as class-work.

Because of this growth, Simpson says that she and her fellow Co-Administrator Kathy Simons are "hoping that any undergraduates that are considering families or have families will come see us."

Viewpoint

What do you think of the administration's proposed changes to Senior House's Steer Roast?



I think the administration sucks.

Daniel Kamalic '99



If MIT people can deal with nuclear reactors and biohazards, I think they can deal with a couple pounds of charcoal.

Karl McLetchie '02

I think it would upset a lot of fly Senior House homes and break traditions. It's probably a bad move by the administration. It'll hurt the spirit of the event.

Sudeb Dalai '02



I think everything should stay the same.

Anne Thompson '01



It's amazing how they keep trying to change tradition. I think they have better things to do with their time.

Chris Toepel '00



As long as Aramark doesn't cater it, it's fine.

Grant Kristofek '02



I don't care, I'm a grad student ... and a vegetarian.

Aimee Rose G

Since ancient times, roasting large animals has represented freedom and technological superiority. We cannot let them take this freedom away.

Shaheer Hussam '03

This Week in MIT History

By Katie Jeffreys
STAFF REPORTER

On March 13, 1990 *The Tech* reported that the MIT community, during the previous week's Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian Awareness Days (BGLAD), had petitioned against the Reserve Officers Training Corps' policy which banned homosexuals from serving. The goal of the group, called Defeat Discrimination at MIT, was to encourage "the MIT Corporation to sever its ties to [the Reserve Officers Training Corps] by June 1994 unless ROTC ceases to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation" ["Students petition to allow gays in ROTC," March 13, 1990]. This action sparked a debate involving the MIT community and the American government which has lasted until today. DDMIT recognized MIT's ability to induce change because the MIT ROTC program is the oldest in the nation, and MIT has historically worked closely with the government in many areas of research.

The national policy on homosexuals in the military at the time stated, "The presence in the military environment of persons who engage in homosexual conduct, or who by their statements demonstrate a propensity to engage in homosexual conduct, seriously impairs the accomplishment of the military mission" ["Students petition to allow gays in ROTC," March 13, 1990]. This was in conflict with MIT's Non-Discriminatory Policy, which protects MIT students, faculty, and staff from all discrimination, including that based on sexual orientation.

The protest wasn't just a battle of morals, but one to support members of the MIT community. Robb L. Bettiker '90, for example, was disenrolled from the MIT Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps because he is gay and faced the possibility of repaying scholarships.

After gathering over 2,000 signatures and holding several public discussions, MIT formed a task force to explore the Institute's options in the matter. The faculty later passed a resolution which said that "inadequate progress toward eliminating the [Defense Department's] policy on sexual orientation will result in ... making ROTC unavailable to students beginning with the class entering in 1998" ["ROTC Ponders Future of Gays," February 26, 1993]. MIT then created committees to lobby the government to change their policies. This administrative initiative is in contrast to Harvard University, which in 1995 simply discontinued funding of the ROTC program because of its discriminatory nature.

The issue received national attention when President Clinton promised to reverse the ban during his 1992 presidential campaign. The Department of Defense's later issued the "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy, which MIT held was still against the non-discrimination policy.

MIT has also received accolades for its work. This fall, Mother Jones, a liberal magazine, listed MIT as the fourth most politically active campus in the nation because of its efforts to include homosexuals in ROTC. Currently, appended to the non-discrimination policy is the statement: "The ROTC programs located on the MIT campus are operated under Department of Defense policies and regulations, and do not comply fully with MIT's policy of nondiscrimination with regard to sexual orientation. On the recommendation of the faculty, MIT is working to develop a modified on-campus ROTC program open to all MIT students."

Spotlight

Tau Beta Pi

By Aaron D. Mihalik
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

MIT's chapter of Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor society, is best known for their annual design competition and spring career fair. This year, however, TBP is getting themselves more involved in both the MIT and neighboring community. "We have a new focus this year — we want to bring TBP to the surface," said Ahmed M. Elmouelhi '01, president of TBP. "In past years it's been a resume padding type of thing. You put TBP on your resume and that's the end of that."

This year TBP's design competition is open to a larger number of MIT teams and a handful of high school teams. TBP will be offering a scholarship to a sophomore student who has demonstrated community involvement and academic excellence. Also, TBP eligible members will have to undertake a more rigorous and organized community service requirement.

Significant changes in design competition

The annual design competition, open to freshmen and sophomore students, has traditionally been open to a limited number of MIT teams. For instance, only 12 teams were invited to participate last year because of time restraints. This year, the competition has been moved to a Saturday to make room for 20 MIT teams and 10 high school teams.

"Usually it's been on a weeknight and we have been limited to the number of teams that we can have," said Amy C. Lee '00, former president of TBP. "Because so many people were interested, we felt we should expand it."

"Traditionally the contest has only involved the MIT community," said Michael B. Goertz '00, chapter service chair for TBP. By opening the competition to high school students we hope "to bring MIT closer to the community."

"We thought it would be interesting ... to have a high school design contest at the same time," said Lee. "For high school students it is interesting to go to the college and see

what college students do."

There are still several logistical aspects to be finalized. "We haven't decided how we are going to split the MIT and the high school teams, and if we are going to give the same problem," said Goertz. "Some of the ideas that we are tossing around for the this year's problem is fairly MIT specific. We want to draw on peoples' experiences at MIT."

Students are allowed two hours to develop a solution and put together a presentation. Since the solutions are not "extremely technical, students don't have to work out difficult engineering problems," said Goertz. "We want them to do creative reasoning, which we feel they can do in two hours and we don't want it to consume much time."

"The judging of the design is highly creativity and presentation based," said Goertz. "It's not so much the technical aspects of their solution, as much as the creativity of their solution and how well they can convey that to the judges."

The judging panels consist of MIT faculty and graduate students. "We are looking at possibly having some high school science teachers," said Goertz. "We are really looking to bring the community into it this year, so we are experimenting with some different ideas." Also, the professors are not necessarily engineering professors. Students are expected to present to "non-technical members of the community."

This year's problem will be similar to years' past. The problem might be "a bit more technical this year, but just as creative," said Goertz. "We want the students to have a really good time with it and not feel like they are doing another problem set on the weekend."

This year, the competition will take place on Saturday April 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Currently, registration is underway for groups of three to four freshmen or sophomore students. Teams can register at <http://web.mit.edu/tbp/www/designcontest/>.

The winning team will be invited to the district design competition at Boston University on April 8. At the district competition, the problems "are pretty involved, but not overly difficult," said Goertz. Also, "students have more time to solve the problem."

TBP provides other community services

TBP has an ongoing collaboration with the Museum of Science. "We do some community service events with the

Museum of Science as well as donate the money to benefit the MIT community," said Lee. TBP makes an annual contribution of \$5,000 to the museum. In return, every member of the MIT community is entitled to free admission to the museum.

TBP is providing a scholarship program that is new this year. The scholarship will be awarded to sophomore "who is doing well academically and has also demonstrated a lot of caring for the community," said Elmouelhi.

"We're looking for someone who has gone above and beyond in terms of community service," said Elmouelhi. "It can be something in Cambridge ... or someone who has done a cool Alternative Spring Break project." The service can be "any type of activity that has had a positive impact on society."

The judging will be based on an essay and a letter of recommendation. Also, the candidate must have a GPA higher than 4.5 to be considered.

Also, TBP sponsors an annual career fair. It's "probably the biggest career fair of the spring," said Lee. This year, it was held on the first Friday of the spring semester.

"We are still trying to figure out if we want to move it to the fall or not," said Elmouelhi. "But we'll definitely have one next year."

Member requirements

TBP requires an academic eligibility that is "really straightforward," said Lee. "But every chapter is given the freedom to decide on more requirements. The idea is that although a lot of people are academically eligible, we want someone who is willing to provide service to the community."

The eligible students "have to fulfill a certain number of [community service] hours to become members," said Elmouelhi. "In past years, eligible students had to complete ten hours of community service." This year, however, eligible students have to participate in coordinated community service efforts set up by TBP. Events include projects with the Habitat for Humanity, the Cambridge Science Expo and the March of Dimes Walk for Hunger.

"We've changed the [community service] eligibility requirements so that the eligible students get to know each other and the members," said Elmouelhi. "There's a lot more interaction that way and we're trying to make it more meaningful to everyone."

They Are Giants

The Tech Speaks with Alt-rock Originals They Might Be Giants

By Katherine H. Allen

STAFF REPORTER

John Flansburgh and John Linnell, the front men for They Might Be Giants will bring their act to MIT as the Spring Weekend headline band. The Tech talked with Flansburgh about the show and the band's beginnings.

Tech: Welcome to MIT. What do you think about playing here, and what do you think it will be like playing for MIT's Spring Weekend?

John: We played for MIT four or five years ago, and it was really fun. We also had a really good experience with the AI Lab: They have a machine, Cog, that was learning to play the drums. Our drummer and Cog had a drumming duel that was recorded for ABC's *Nightline*. My dad is an MIT alum, and I grew up around Boston, so it's not too unusual.

Tech: So do you have any special plans for MIT this time?

John: Not really: we're planning on playing our regular tour show. There are a lot of songs from our next album, so there will be some new stuff. I can see, though, how more thoughtful people might appreciate some of our songs more.

Tech: The opening band for Spring Weekend is Reel Big Fish. What do you think about playing with them?

John: We've actually done shows with Reel Big Fish before. They're super-talented, and very nice guys.

Tech: You and John Linnell have been playing together for a long time now. How did TMBG get started, and how did you get to where you are now?

John: John and I were friends in high school, mostly because we worked on the newspaper together. We spend lots of time drawing cartoons, writing articles, doing



CATHERINE MCGANN

John and John (Flansburgh and Linnell) of They Might Be Giants

paste-up work, everything. John was very talented and musical even then. The new-wave explosion in the 80's made John feel like he could actually be a part of the music scene. Aspiring to be in a rock band was like aspiring to be a superstar, but we got caught up in the Boston punk-rock scene. It was a very fruitful time for individual "art-school" rockers: Television, Talking Heads, Blondie, but we, like many others, were struggling in obscurity throughout the early 80's. It was a slow road out of the living room and into the N.Y.C. clubs, and once we were there we were "the other guys." We were always the exception: not quite in the art-school scene, not quite in

the club scene, because our set-up was so odd.

Tech: So when did your real success begin, then?

John: We really took off when our record started showing up on the college charts, and when we had a video on MTV.

Tech: You guys started in normal records, then, but you had the "best-selling MP3" last year. How did you get into MP3?

John: Frank Black of GoodNoise, which is now E-Music, approached TMBG about releasing on MP3 a couple years ago. It's strange though: anyone who makes their living by recording feels a little uneasy about a medium that is so easily bootleg-able ... but

MP3 was a means to an end, a way around the politics of the big record companies.

Tech: So you didn't intend to be a non-mainstream group?

John: I would be lying if I said that we didn't want to be successful, but it just never seemed to be a good time for good music. We're not terribly excited in streamlining our music and ideas for the mainstream, but we do want to have an audience. This makes MP3 a good way for us. I have never been surprised that the good music never had big audiences. There's too much attention paid to the charts, the radio stations and all that. People get into bands because they are fun, not because they are popular.

Tech: Speaking of good music, what kinds of music do you listen to?

My personal musical obsessions are pretty relentless and dull. As a child I grew up with a transistor radio tuned to Top 40 waiting for Beatles and British Invasion songs, with my folks playing Joan Baez and Cambridge folkies on the hi-fi. Currently, I have an ongoing obsession with Sammy Davis Jr. and Frank Sinatra, along with R&B and soul songs from the '60s and '70s (exceptionally well compiled by Rhino). I enjoyed the Green Day album, and got our drummer Brian to pull out his Weezer tape a million times on this last tour to listen to that "Buddy Holly" song for its Brian Wilson-like vibe. Recently I've been listening to this great collection of songs by Allen Toussaint (a New Orleans R&B and pop record producer/pianist who made a few very cool records over the course of the seventies). I really dug the last Superchunk LP and recently got the new Guided by Voices album. In the past I have been into early Mills Bros. (their pre-band, 30's era stuff) and Tennessee Ernie Ford.

Crossword Puzzle

Solution

from page 15



• Around the Institute

N42-013

The New Media Center is open as usual throughout Spring Break.

Logan Shuttle

The shuttle is offered by Parking and Transportation for all members of the MIT community. Tickets must be purchased in advance, at the Source, and are \$5.00 each.

Ice Rink Open Skating Hours

Normal skating hours until Sunday, March 18 (last day of ice).

Spring Break Schedule Changes

MIT Libraries

Barker, Dewey, and Hayden Humanities and Science Libraries follow regular schedule. Schedules for the rest may be obtained online.

26-139 will be open as follows:

3/21	Closed
3/22	6-10 p.m.
3/23	6-10 p.m.
3/24	6-10 p.m.
3/25	5-10 p.m.
3/26	Closed
3/28	12-4 p.m.

38-501, 38-601 Lab Hours:

3/17	8:30-4:45
3/18	Closed
3/19	Closed
3/20-24	9-5:15
3/25	Closed
3/26	12-11:45

•call for applications•

the Council for the Arts at MIT

ARTS SCHOLARS PROGRAMopen to sophomores, juniors and seniors, and now open to
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Application Deadline: FRIDAY MARCH 31, 2000**Who are the Arts Scholars?** A community of MIT student artists, from all disciplines**Who should apply?** Students who are committed to work in one or more disciplines in the arts and who wish for more interaction with fellow student & faculty artists**What is the program ?** The program is structured around informal monthly dinners accompanied by presentations or excursions. Presentations may be given by faculty members, MIT artists -in-residence, fellow students or Boston-area artists**Application forms are available at 3-234 and E15-205
Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm**

For more information

call 253-4005 or email cohen@media.mit.edu**Mixing sex with alcohol is a risky combination...
...even on spring break!!!**

- Intoxication from alcohol and/or other drugs lowers one's ability to think clearly, impairs judgement, and makes it more difficult to clearly express or understand consent.
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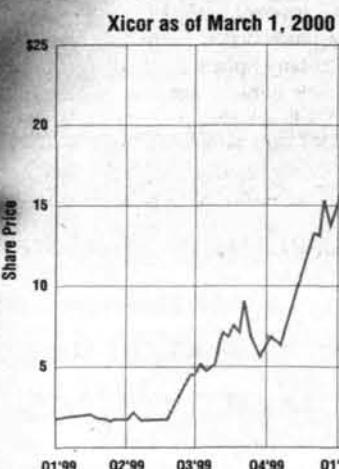
The MIT Admissions Office,
Office of the Arts
and Concerts Office
invite you to participate in:ARTS STAGE
in Lobby 7Friday and Saturday, April 7 and 8
(Campus Preview Weekend 2000)Participation open to all MIT
student, faculty and staffSign up sheet posted outside the Office
of the Arts, E15-205For more information, contact Mary Haller in the
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Linguistics
Literature
Music
Philosophy
Politics
Theater
Visual Arts
Women's Studies

Rules and Guidelines are available from the
Music and Theater Arts Office, 14N-207
or on the Web at<http://web.mit.edu/mta/www/music/kellyprize.htm>

Deadline for submission is April 12, 2000

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THE ARTS

INTERVIEW

Jerry O'Connell

Beauty Truly is Only Skin Deep

By Sonali Muhkerjee

STAFF REPORTER

Raise your hand if you are guilty of the crime of going to see a movie or watching a television show, not because you were incredibly interested in the plot line, but to check out the hot guy who is starring in it. Even as I write this article, I reluctantly raise my hand.

Point in case: I jumped at the chance to interview actor Jerry O'Connell. Having been a devoted fan of *Sliders*, the futuristic sci-fi show in which O'Connell plays Quinn Mallory, one of four inter-dimensional time travelers, and having avidly watched (multiple times) movies such as *Stand By Me*, *Calendar Girl*, and *Scream 2*, the opportunity to teleconference with O'Connell was almost like a dream come true. But, alas, I soon came to realize that the old adage "beauty is only skin deep" is so very true, especially when it comes to actors like O'Connell.

In preparation for the teleconference, I went to O'Connell's new movie, *Mission to Mars*, directed by Brian DiPalma. In it, he plays astronaut Phil Ohlmyer, accompanying three other astronauts (Gary Sinise, Don Cheadle, and Connie Nielsen) on a rescue mission to the our neighboring red planet. Ironically, the thing O'Connell is most proud of in the film is the fact that he had so many "technical lines" to say. He made this point specifically to me during the interview since I am from MIT; the problem, though, is that any MIT freshman who has taken Introductory Biology (7.012) can point out many of the ridiculous, half-witted references to human genetics in the movie.

Silly as this may sound, it had not really occurred to me before that simply because an actor is attractive does not mean he is Academy Award material. However, while watching *Mission to Mars*, the idea started to sluggishly register in my mind. Even through the stifled (and sometimes not-so-stifled) giggles of the audience, I tried to convince myself it was not that terrible a movie. Yet, it just became more difficult to keep a straight face through such scenes as when Ohlmyer reboots all the computers on a malfunctioning space ship simply by pulling a plug and reconnecting it like he was working with any ordinary electrical socket. As I walked out of the theatre, I listened to comments from the audience. The general reaction was this: What a cornball movie. You don't have to be an MIT student to figure that one out.

Despite the fact that the movie had been so disappointing, I still looked forward to the teleconference, held last Friday. After all, he was an actor from Hollywood, and it's always a rush to get to speak with a celebrity. One of the first things that struck me was that O'Connell seemed quite laid-back for a conference call that consisted of more than 8,000 people. He invited everyone to call him Jerry and even was nice enough to acknowledge the

moderator of the teleconference.

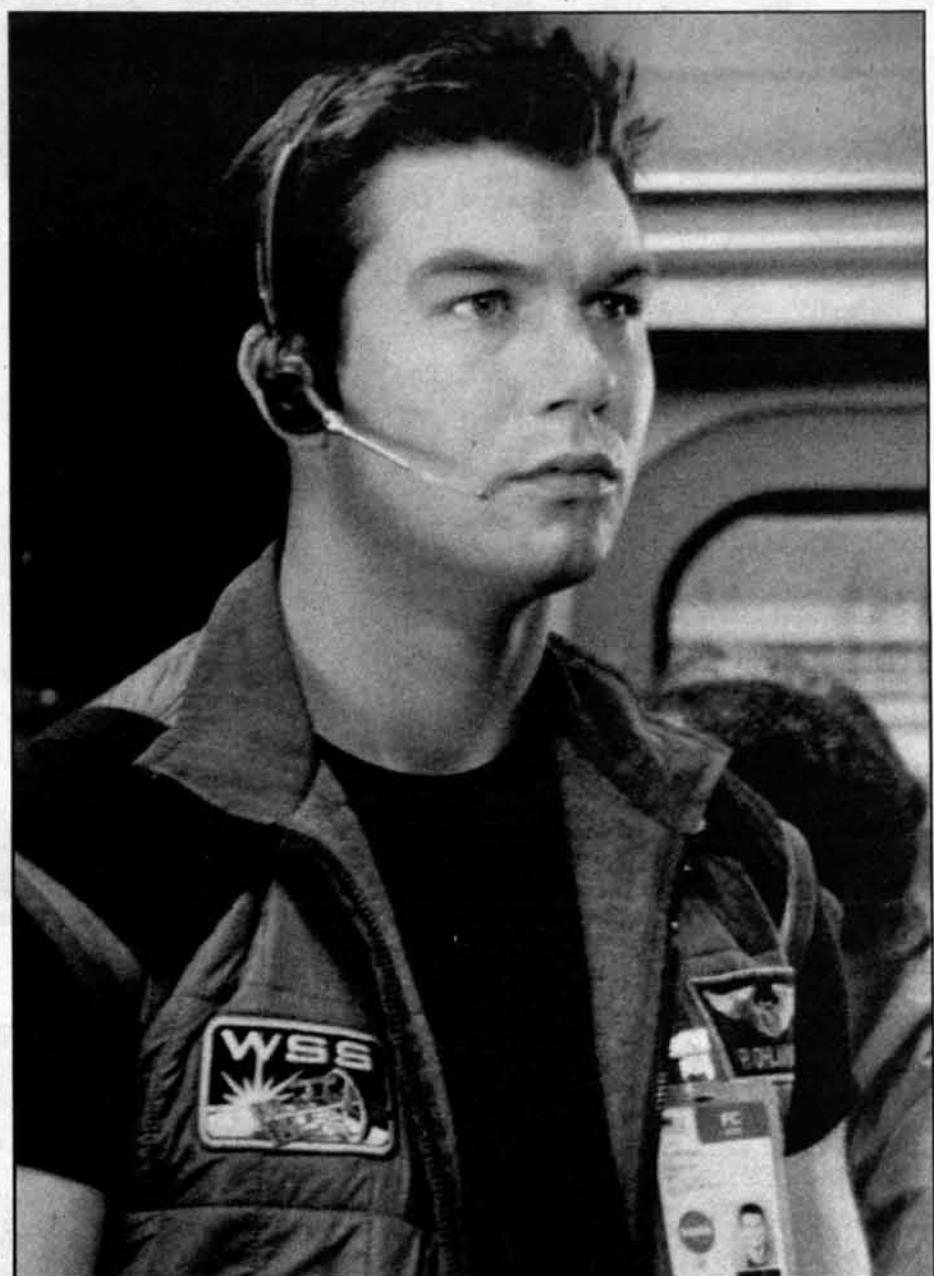
O'Connell spoke a bit about previous roles he had taken. In *Stand By Me*, the 1986 film in which he debuted, O'Connell played the sweet but slightly obese eleven-year-old Vern Tessio, on an adventure with three other friends to find a dead body. In reality, O'Connell admitted that, around the time, he was a very exuberant and sometimes rambunctious kid in the New York City public school system who put most of his energy into activities such as drama classes in order to stay out of trouble on the streets.

In *The Ranger, The Cook, and A Hole in the Sky*, a made for TV movie that came out in 1995, he starred as the dashing mountain ranger Mac Hole. This type of role is the kind that O'Connell prefers: his height and his athletic build are definitely needed to pull off that effect. He used this to his advantage when he played the football star Frank Cushman in *Jerry McGuire* (1996).

Questions from reporters about the movie *Mission to Mars* dealt with topics from how he became involved in the project to how the zero gravity scenes were filmed. O'Connell was a film student at New York University Film School, and he said that he studied Brian DiPalma. He mainly accepted the part because he wanted to work with DiPalma, whom he called a genius. As for the zero gravity parts, unlike *Apollo 13*, where the scenes were filmed on the "Vomit Comet," a jet created specifically by NASA to study weightlessness, most of *Mars*'s zero-g shots were done on cables and on green screens.

O'Connell took this opportunity to emphasize his athletic abilities as he told the reporters how he sometimes had to hang upside-down for long periods of time in order to allow DiPalma to do the shots he needed. Interestingly enough, O'Connell was on the fencing team at NYU, and had the chance to go to the Olympics for Team USA. However, he gave it up to go into acting because he was starting *Sliders* at about that time. O'Connell once even competed in a match against the MIT fencing team: apparently, he never learned what it means to be a gracious winner, for his smugness in his team's victory over MIT was quite apparent during the interview.

As the conference proceeded, the questions became more directed at his personal life and his experiences in the acting business. They also became more trivial and juvenile, and O'Connell's answers were not much better. From his experience of meeting Britney Spears at one of her concerts ("She's a little hottie; I can't wait until she becomes legal") to whether he wears boxers or briefs (briefs), to what he would keep as reality if he woke up from today and realized that the world was a dream (his car), O'Connell demonstrated exactly how shallow and material his personality is. Perhaps this opinion is a little biased coming from a member of the female sex, but if you had to listen to him brag about



ROB MCEWAN—TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

Jerry O'Connell (left) as astronaut Phil Ohlmyer (with Connie Nielsen, right, as Terri Fisher) in Touchstone Pictures' *Mission To Mars*. O'Connell took the part for the opportunity to work with director Brian DiPalma, and because the script included many "technical lines."

how he made it to first base with some random girl in Orange County, California, you, too, would probably come to my conclusion.

Immaturity aside, O'Connell did have some interesting experiences to share. For instance, in an introductory film course at NYU, there was a discussion of the various metaphors and hidden language of *Stand By Me* while he was sitting in the class. Evidently, no one realized that he had starred in the film, and it was an interesting experience for him to sit there and listen to students pick apart the film. He also recounted that he was offered the role of Bailey (a role played by Scott Wolf) in the Fox TV series *Party of Five*, and how he later turned it down in order to play Quinn Mallory in *Sliders*.

Much to my disappointment, though, the interview made me realize that Jerry O'Connell is not the type of person I had expected

him to be. This is direct proof of the ability of actors to completely fool their audience into believing that they are truly their character. I love actors who play people who are very intelligent. O'Connell was that for me in *Sliders*: an electrical engineering genius who built contraptions with the ability to transport people to parallel universes. Unfortunately, after learning that he failed algebra three times, I realized that the closest O'Connell is going to get when it comes to intellect is pretending to have it. As unappealing as I found him as a person, though, I would still go see a movie if he starred in it. You see, even the audience can be actors. I can convince myself he is really hot as long as I don't think about his personality, because I don't think I'm ever going to want to meet him in person again. As the old adage goes, "ignorance is bliss."



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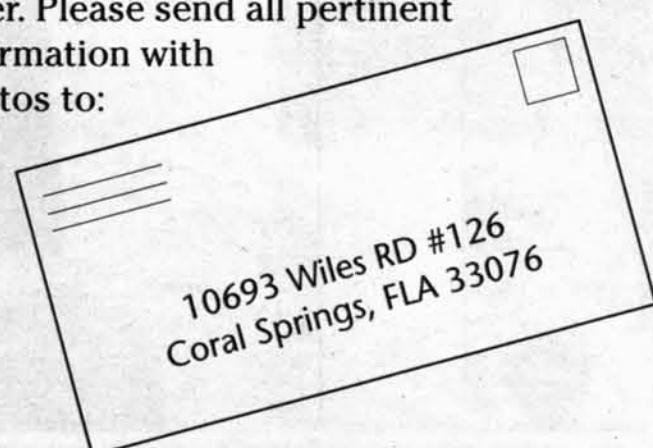
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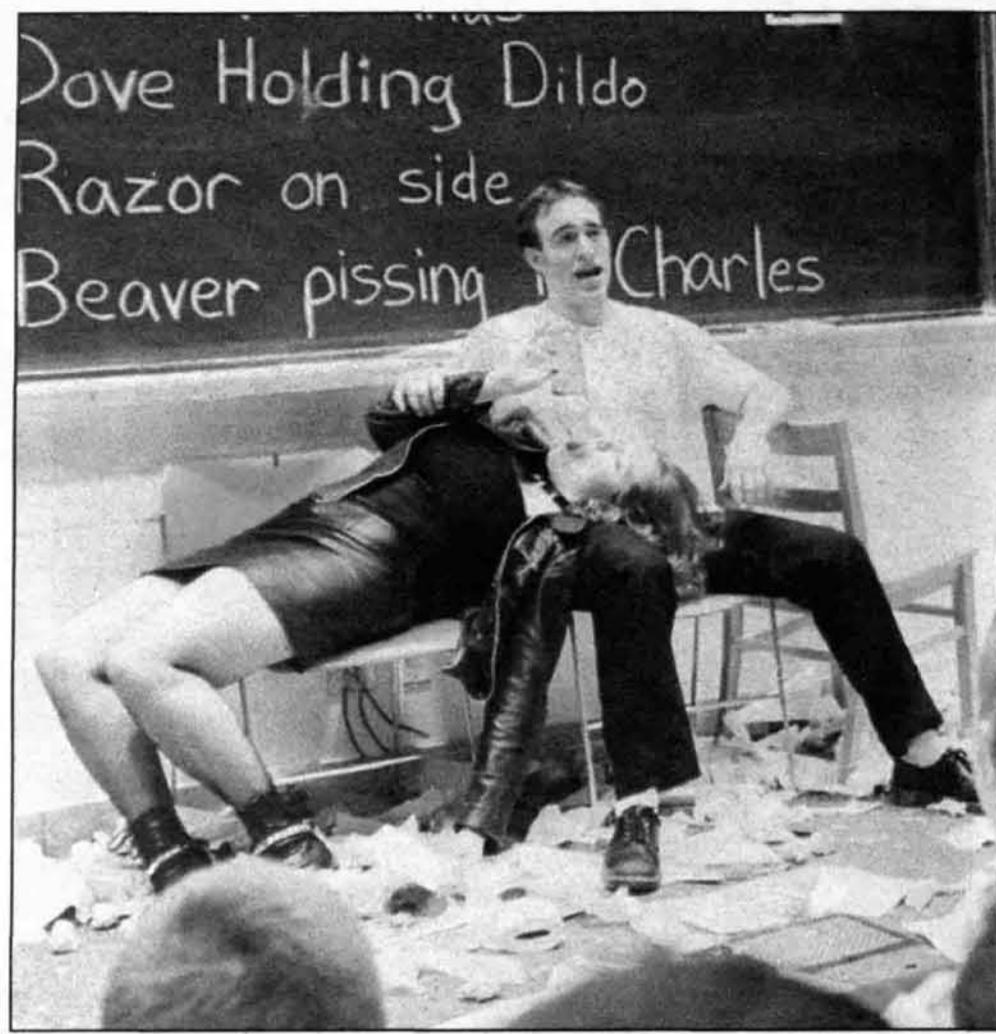
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Jake B. Lake '01 as Kappa Sigma pokémon pulls the "bottle placement defense" against the Sigma Kappa pokémon, Rachel A. Sharp '02.



Maggie A. Sullivan '03 and Brian M. Wong '03, as Handsfull and Gretel, are told by "Fuck" Vest Josh C. Randall '01 to stop licking the Stata Center- played by Mira E. Wilczek '03.

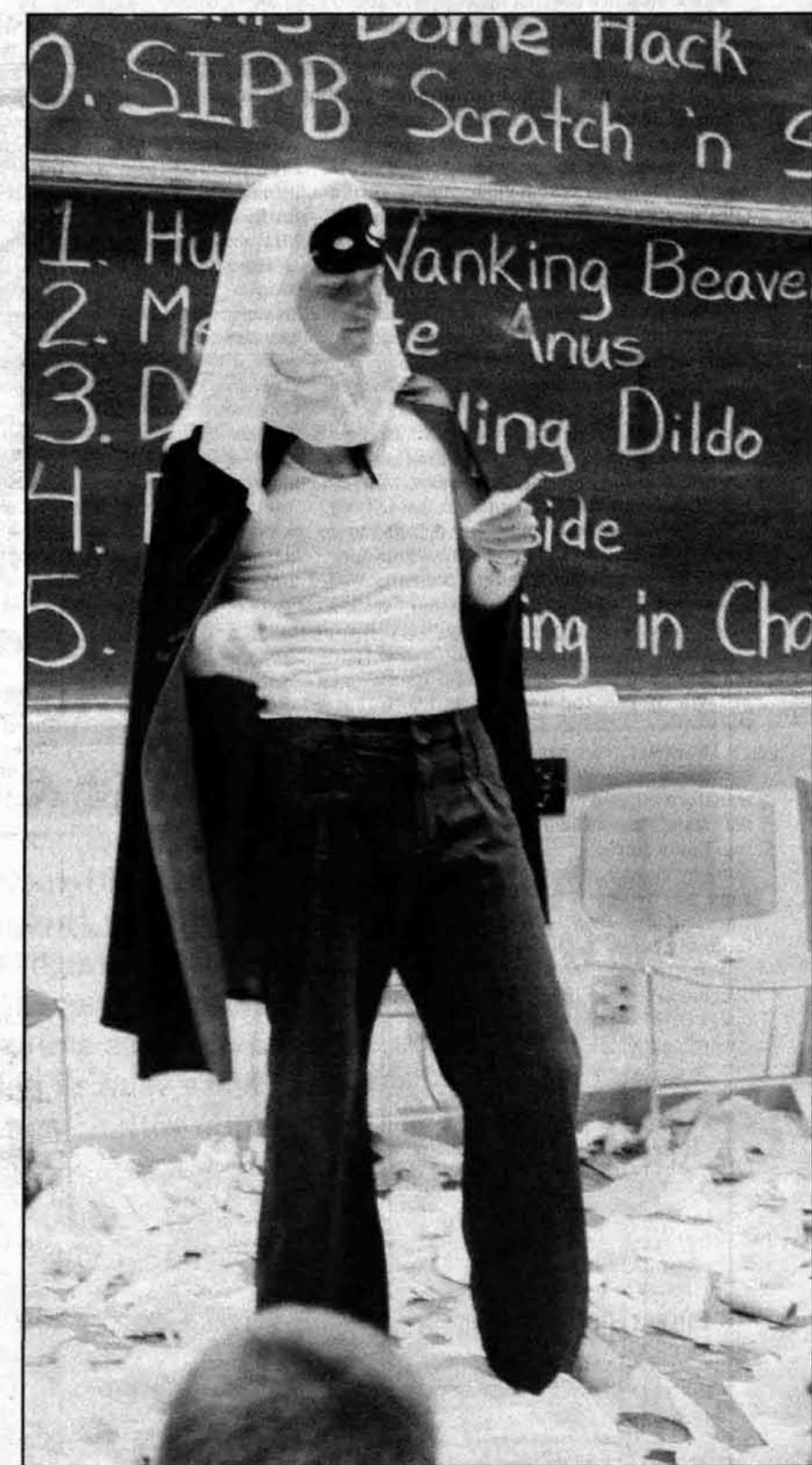


Cinderella (Sharp) is transformed into a chiffon dress with a "zap" from her fairy godfather (Lake), who sports lacy pink wings.

SINGING WITH EXPLETIVES: BAD TASTE 2000



Wong and Joe A. Cirello '01 of team "Cock" use something "new, something different, something... gay!" — a Delta Lambda Phi pokémon (Corey M. Gerritsen '02) against Sharp's "bouncing boob defense" Sigma Kappa pokémon.



Bernard R. Levin '00 acts as ringmaster of Bad Taste, reading the top 101 alternative meanings for SWE in honor of their Beaver Dash event.

Bad Taste, from Page 1

by a toilet paper roll to see. Though vulgar, shameless, offensive, and many times downright disgusting, it was offensive to all, and that was really what made it amusing.

The theme of this year's show was *The MITrix* (think: *Matrix*) but that was somehow combined with adult fairy tales in an unclear manner. However, the idiosyncrasies of the "plot" didn't diminish the impact of the show. In fact, the absence of logic probably made the show more amusing at times.

Some of the highlights of the skits included "American Pi," the nerd equivalent of the movie ("This one time, at math camp...") and "Pokéfrats" which very pointedly made fun of several specific FSILGs. As I said, no one was safe from ridicule, and the 101 alternate meanings of SWE ranged from "Scapegoats Wanted Everywhere" to "Sexy Wal-Mart Employees." A personal favorite was the Saferide Driver skit, which included the line "Get your communitin' on."

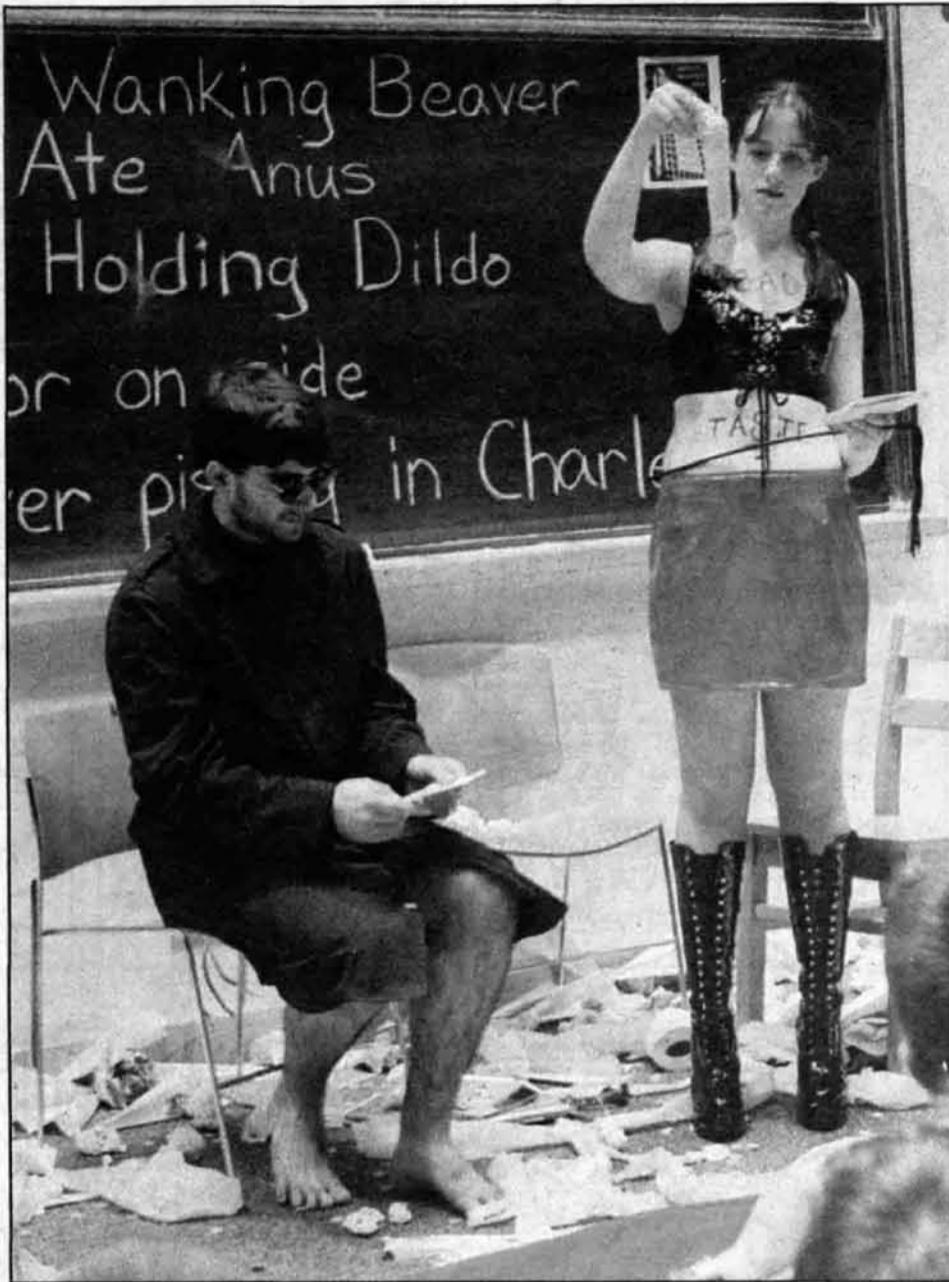
There was a lot in Bad Taste that had to do with current MIT events, from the building of the Strata Center to the Brass Rat to the Boston Licensing Board and the Cambridge Licensing Commission to Chuck Vest (whose name was curiously mispronounced throughout the show). In fact, The Top Ten Anticipated Dates for Housing Freshman On Campus was postponed until next year in favor of The Top Ten Things Not to Put on a Brass Rat.

The songs were equally as offensive as the skits, and perhaps more so at times. "Meet Virginia" by Train was transformed into "West Virginia," which documented that state's most famous aspects: rednecks and inbreeding. Fiona Apple's "Criminal" was changed to "Animal." Sung by Anna K. Benefiel '00 and Sheri A. Cheng G, the song was replete with descriptions of bestiality. Even Burt and Ernie's "Rubber Duckie" was corrupted into "Rub My Penis."

After two full hours of performing, the Chorallaries concluded with a slightly modified version of "The Engineers Drinking Song" before being called back for an encore. Although the audience had no problem shouting out their requests, the Chorallaries pulled "Dumb Just Like a Woman" from Bob Dylan's "Just Like a Woman." Joseph A. Cirello '01 was pelted with toilet paper and other projectiles during his solo, but definitely got more laughs than jeers for the song. Culture Club's "Karma Chameleon" was modified to explain: "MIT is easy when you study biology..."

The Concert in Bad Taste was definitely an enthusiastic performance, well suited to the MIT audience. Similarly, the MIT audience was very receptive to the type of humor offered up by Bad Taste. Although the staging, costuming, and acting (as the actors carried around note-cards) were primitive at best, students still packed the lecture hall doorways and aisles to catch a glimpse of the action.

To some extent a product of hype and timing, the concert went well, leaving most people with some mixture of offense and amusement, just as it was aimed to do.



Anna K. Benefiel '00 studies a phallic squirt gun as Randall explains the illusion of the MITrix, the theme of this year's Bad Taste t-shirts.



Sharp sings to Prince Charming, Cirello, about Sadomasochism in "Dominatrix," a parody of the original song "Rebuluba" by Moe. Colorful lyrics included "Beat me down" and "I like to beat on you."



Audience members waited up to 25 hours in line to be the first in 10-250 for this year's Bad Taste. The line, stretching to 3-270, included tents, an ethernet hub, and a shopping cart piled high with toilet paper.

the crass rat

ACK - IT'S NANCY... QUICK,
CHARM HER WITH YOUR
READY WIT. GET HER TO
NOTICE YOU...

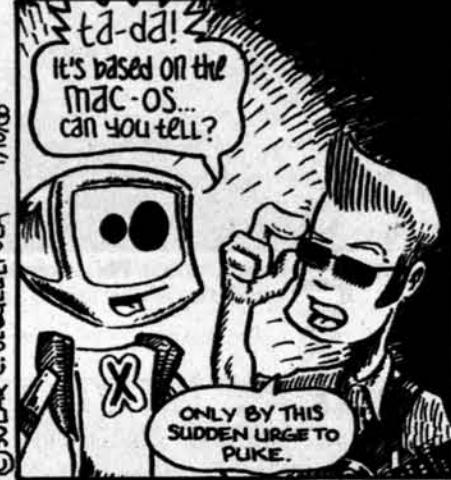
AHEM!
HEY ARNOLD -
WHY DID THE
CHICKEN CROSS THE
MÖBIUS STRIP?

TO GET TO THE
SAME SIDE...
YUK, YUK, YUK!

WOO HOO - SHE TURNED
AROUND... I'M SLOWLY
WINNING HER OVER!
I SHOULD
HAVE GONE
TO
STANFORD.

KIRKHAM 3/14

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Fun With Clip Art

Aaron Isaksen



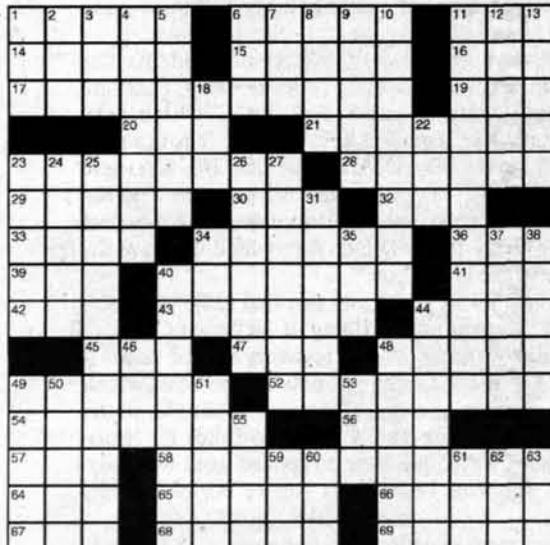
"This kinda reminds me of my college days when I was too poor to buy pornography so I would check out anthropology books from the library. Lots of naked women in those books."

ACROSS
1 Take up
6 Does ushering
11 Tax grp.
14 Menial
15 Yellow-banded
black snake
16 Little bite
17 Hockey box
19 Gardner of "The
Killers"
20 Unused
21 Words wit
23 Space in
cyberspace?
28 Nebraska river
29 Gets up
30 Runner, e.g.
32 Look up and down
33 Imitated
34 Perspiring
36 Org. of Senators
& Capitals
39 Health retreat
40 Spanish rice
dishes
41 As well
42 Signal for help
43 Lounged about
44 Baseball team
45 Affirmative vote
47 Actor Cariou
48 Great reviews
49 Knight & the
Pips
52 Scarcity
54 Easily bent
56 Be in debt

57 Psychic's power
58 As luck would
have it
64 Actor Wallach
65 Pamphlet
66 Put into words
67 Get the picture
68 Dutch genre
painter
69 Cattle groups

DOWN
1 High mount
2 John's last name?
3 Possess
4 Embedded
5 Anne and Liv
6 Wild blue yonder
7 Segment of
history
8 Seniors' org.
9 Traffic jam
10 Kubrick and
Kramer
11 Half asleep
12 Metal bolt
13 Let live
18 Even prime number
22 For instance
23 Boorish
24 River horse, for
short
25 Very simple
26 "1984" author
27 1997 Pulitzer
Prize-winning
poet Lisel
31 Principal ore of
lead

Crossword Puzzle

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Solution, page 8

34	Paulo, Brazil	46 Begley and McMahon	55 Great Lake
35	Little bl	37 Sharpens	59 Golf-hole starter
36	48 Scrub again	38 Loamy deposit	60 Coffee server
37	49 Joys	40 End-of-season	61 Acoustic organ
38	50 Strong thread	series	62 Inc. in the U.K.
39	51 Young salmon	44 "No, No, ___"	63 Affirmative
40	53 Moody or Silver		response

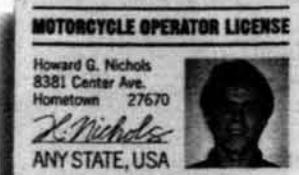
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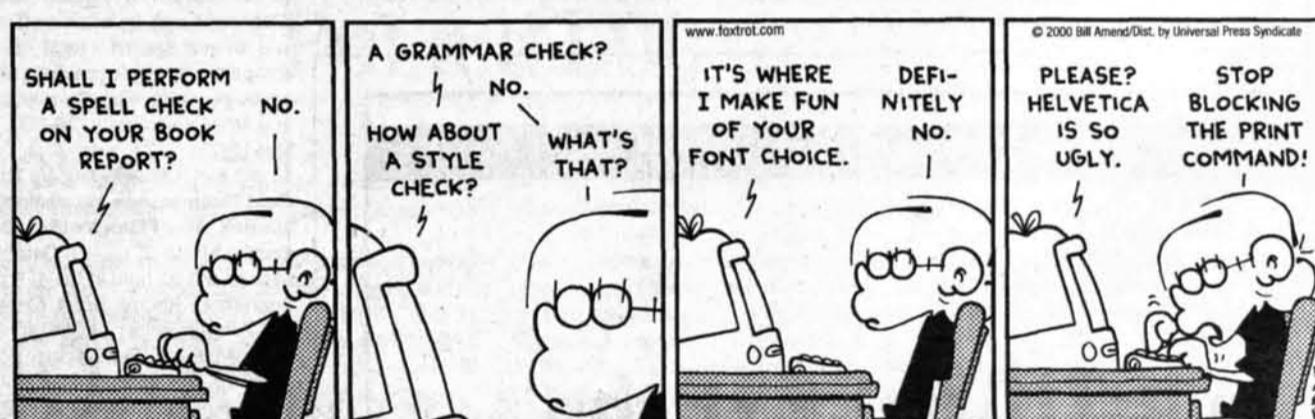
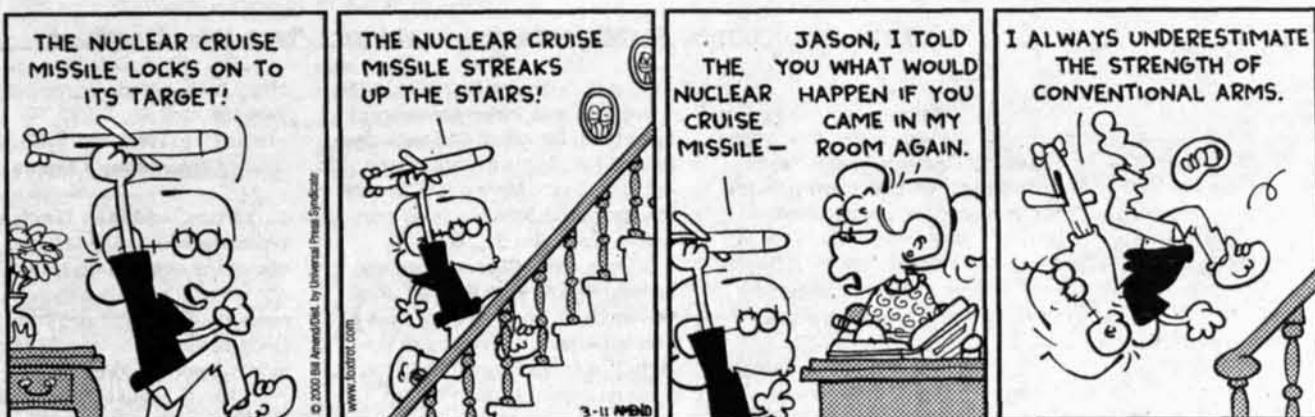
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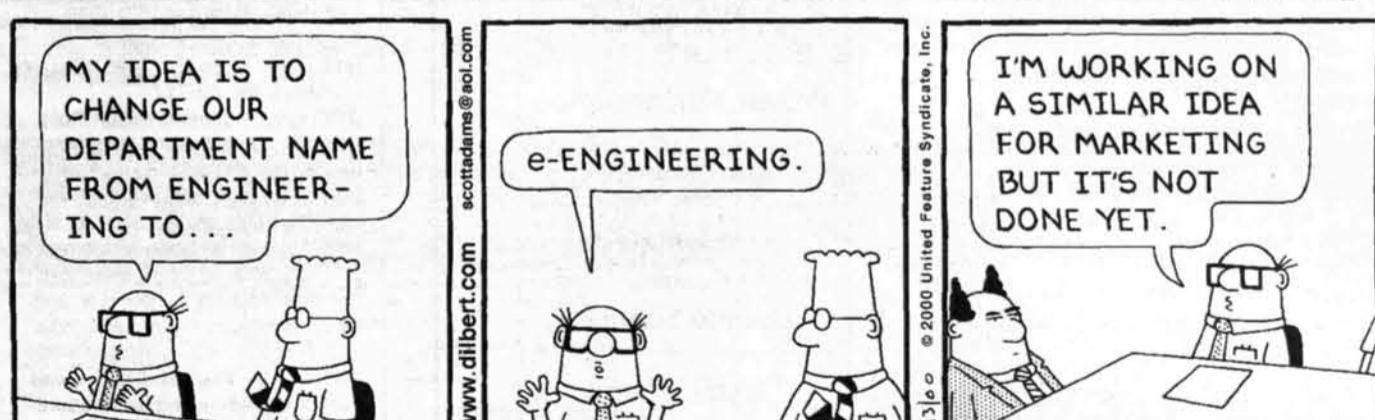
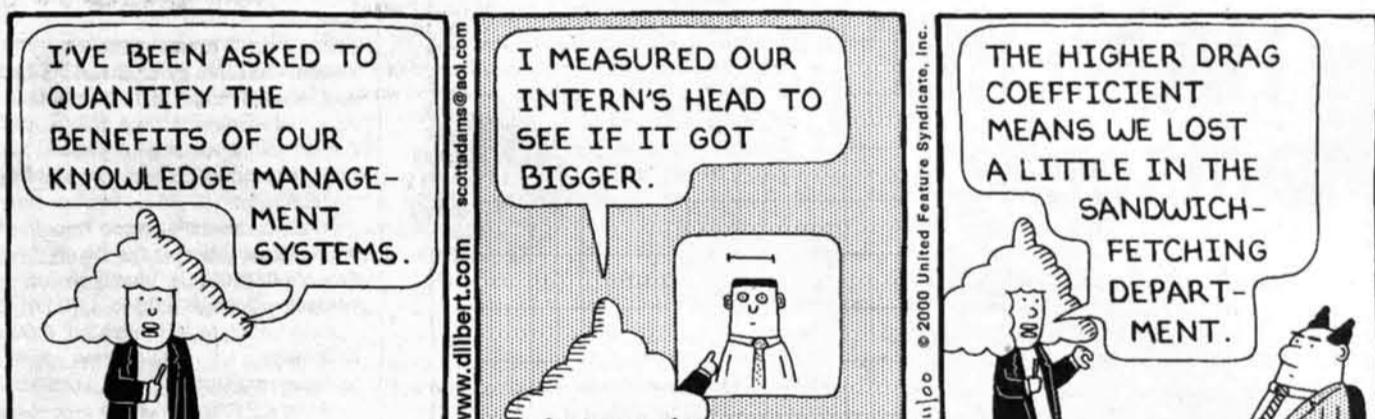
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Tuesday's Events

7:30 - 10:30 p.m. - **Contra Dance for All.** MIT Folk Dance Club presents a Contra Dance. No experience or partner necessary! Live music by Terry Traub & Cal Howard, caller Linda Leslie. Refreshments served. Admission 0. Morss Hall (Walker, b.50). Sponsor: Folk Dance Club.

12:00 p.m. - **Preparing Siblings for a New Baby, Deborah Issokson** Open. More info: Call Family Resource Center at 253-1592. Email frc@mit.edu. Web: <http://web.mit.edu/personnel/www/frc/>. Rm 16-151.

12:00 p.m. - **Modern Laser Spectroscopy: Ultrasensitive, Ultra-stable, and Ultrafast, Jun Ye, JILA.** Refreshments served following the seminar. Please see web.mit.edu/spectroscopy/www for more detail. Open. More info: Call Alison Hearn at 253-4881. Email hearn@mit.edu. Web: <http://web.mit.edu/spectroscopy/www>. Rm 37-252.

2:30 p.m. - **Collapsing Bacterial Cylinders, Meredith Betterton, Department of Physics, Harvard University.** Refreshments will be served a 3:30 PM in Room 2-349. Open. More info: Call Professor John Bush

at 253-4387. Email bush@math.mit.edu. Rm 2-338.

4:00 p.m. - **High-Order, Nonlinear, Feedback Systems from Kindergarten to Chief Executive Officers, Jay W. Forrester, Sloan School, MIT.** A short reception will follow in the Osborne Room (35-338). Open. More info: Call soosan beheshti at 253-2832. Email soosan@mit.edu. Rm 35-225.

4:00 p.m. - **Technology to Enable Analog/Rf/Digital Systems on a Chip, Dennis Buss, Texas Instruments.** Refreshments in Room 34-101 at 3:30 p.m. Open. More info: Call Deborah Hodges-Pabon at 253-5264. Email debb@mtl.mit.edu. Web: <http://www.mtl.mit.edu/>. Rm 34-101.

4:00 p.m. - **SCALING OF RIVER NETWORKS, Prof. Dan Rothman, Dept. of Earth & Planetary Science, MIT.** Open. More info: Call Donna Wilker at 253-2021. Email dwilker@mit.edu. Rm 5-234.

4:00 p.m. - **E-Projects Square, Mary Hopper, Postdoctoral Associate, Comparative Media Studies.** Open. More info: Call Mary Hopper at 868-7157. Email mehopper@mit.edu. Web: <http://web.mit.edu/mehopper/www>. Rm 56-114.

4:30 p.m. - **Fluent Software in the Aerospace and Turbomachinery Industries, Dr. David G. Schowalter, Fluent, Inc.** Refreshments served

4:15pm. Open. More info: Call Lori Martinez at 253-2481. Email dragoni@mit.edu. Rm 31-161.

4:30 p.m. - **Will Clinton's Legacy Include Middle East Peace?, Prof. William B. Quandt, Dept of Govt & Foreign Affairs, University of Virginia.** The Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar. Open. More info: Call Julianne Stilwell at 253-8961. Email stilwell@mit.edu. Rm E51-095.

6:30 p.m. - **Some Aspects of My Art and on Architecture, Hermann Pitz, artist, Berlin; professor, Rijkssakademie, Amsterdam.** Department of Architecture Lecture. Open. More info: Call Department of Architecture at 253-7791. Rm 10-250.

7:00 p.m. - **"Eastern Europe: Memoirs, Memory, History.", Panel discussion** Andre Makine, author of "Dreams of My Russian Summers." Part of the Global Writers Series in collaboration with the Program in Writing & Humanistic Studies; co-sponsored by the Kelly Fund. Closed. More info: Call Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies at 253-7894. Web: -

<http://web.mit.edu/humanistic/www/writseri.htm>. Rm 4-237.

Wednesday's Events

12:10 p.m. - **GABLES Lunch with a Woman's Focus.** This addition to the end of the month GABLES lunch has women as its focus although it is open to all MIT staff and faculty. The lunch occurs in the middle of the month. Sponsor: GABLES.

3:00 p.m. - **spouses&partners@mit weekly meeting.** Comparative Religions: Dean Robert Randolph will discuss the common roots of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Childcare provided. Admission 0. W20-400. Sponsor: spouses&partners@mit.

5:00 p.m. - **FRANCE Program Orientation.** Find out about paid 3-12 month internships in FRANCE! All MIT students welcome! Wednesday, March 15 5-7 p.m. E52-482. E52-482. Sponsor: MIT Japan Program.

5:00 p.m. - **AMP (Advanced Music Performance) Concert: Youngmoo Kim, (G) baritone.** With Youssef Marzouk (G), piano. Admission 0. Killian Hall. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

8:00 p.m. - **Erin Brockovich - Free Sneak Preview.** A research assistant (Roberts) helps an attorney (Finney) in a lawsuit against a large utility company blamed for causing an outbreak of cancer and other illnesses in a small community. 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

11:00 a.m. - **Sharpening Up The Far-Field Fluorescence Microscope, Stefan Hell, Max Plank Institut, Göttingen.** On March 1, on this Date only, Lecture will be held in 36-428 (RLE Conference Room). Open. More info: Call Erich Ippen at 253-8504. Email ippen@mit.edu. Rm 34-Grier Room B, 34-401B.

12:00 p.m. - **A Discussion of Current Security Issues in Japan, Masahiro Akiyama, Former Vice Minister, Japan Defense Agency.** Bag lunch; refreshments will be provided. Open. More info: Call Lynne Levine at 253-0133. Email llevine@mit.edu. Web: <http://web.mit.edu/ssp/>. Rm E38-615.

12:10 p.m. - **Atmospheric jet-stream - oceanic gyre: observations and, Arnaud Czaja, MIT.** Open. More info: Call Markus Jochum at 3-2922. Email mjochum@mit.edu. Web: <http://www.mit.edu/~mjochum/sack.html>. Rm 54-915.

3:00 p.m. - **Hubble Space Telescope Observation of the Binary Star VV CEPhei, Dr. Wendy Bauer, Wellesley College.** 3:00 to 4:00pm: Lecture - open to all interested. 4:00 to 5:00pm: Discussion - open to registered students only. Location for Annual Public Lecture to be announced soon. Open. More info: Call Helen Halaris at 258-5546. Email halaris@mit.edu. Web: <http://web.mit.edu/masgc/www/phasel.html>. Rm 37-212.

4:00 p.m. - **Computational Fluid Dynamics on Parallel Computers and Workstation Clusters, Professor Lyle N. Long, Aerospace Engineering, The Pennsylvania State University.** All programs begin with a reception at 3:30 p.m. Open. More info: Call Prof. Anthony T. Patera at 253-8122. Email patera@mit.edu. Web: <http://web.mit.edu/sma>. Rm 4-237.

4:15 p.m. - **Jing's Hall-Littlewood Vertex Operators and Generalized Kostka Polynomials, Mark Shimozono, Virginia Tech.** Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in Room 2-349. Open. More info: Call Michael Kleber at 253-7905. Email kleber@math.mit.edu. Web: <http://www.math.mit.edu/~combin>. Rm 2-338.

Thursday's Events

12:00 p.m. - **MIT Chapel Concert: John Muratore, guitar.** Works by Frederic Hand; Scott Wheeler and J.S. Bach. Admission 0. MIT Chapel.

Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

6:00 p.m. - **authors@mit: "Germaine Krull: Photographer of Modernity".** Author Kim Sichel (asst prof, Dept of Art History, BU) discusses

her work on photographer Germaine Krull (1897-1985), who led an extraordinary life that spanned nine decades and four continents. Admission 0. Rm 4-231. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

8:00 p.m. - **"The Extraordinary Adventures of Mr. West in the Land of the Bolsheviks".** Directed by Lev Kuleshov (1924). Center for Bilingual/Bicultural Studies/International Film Club "Where East Meets West" series. Refreshments provided. Rm 4-237. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

8:00 p.m. - **A Midsummer Night's Dream.** Co-directed by Lisa Wolpe, artistic director of Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare group and Sarah Hickler. \$8 general admission. Admission 6.00. Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

12:00 p.m. - **TPP Lunch Talk Series, Mar 16: Duncan Moore, Associate Director for Technology in the Office.** Mar 16: Duncan Moore, Associate Director for Technology in the Office of the Science and Technology Policy of the Executive Office of the President. Lunch will be provided - please RSVP

jwblack@mit.edu. Open. More info: Call Poonum Agrawal at 617-547-5918. Email pagrawal@mit.edu. Rm 35-225.

3:00 p.m. - **FORMATION MECHANISMS OF POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS FROM AROMATIC FUELS, Professor Judy Wornat, Princeton University.** Open. More info: Call Susan Lutin at 253-4529. Email susanl@mit.edu. Web: <http://engine.mit.edu>. Rm 3-133.

4:00 p.m. - **Lagrangian coherent structures in turbulence, George Haller, Brown University.** Open. More info: Call Tieh Yong Koh at 8-6910. Email yong@mit.edu. Web: <http://www-paoc.mit.edu/MASSseries.html>. Rm 54-915.

4:00 p.m. - **Creating Competitive Advantage Using Model-Driven Support Systems, Tom Cook, Senior Counselor, McKinsey & Company, Inc.** Seminar followed by refreshments in E40-106. Open. More info: Call John Hollywood at 253-6185. Email jshollyw@mit.edu. Web: <http://web.mit.edu/orc/www>. Rm E40-298.

6:00 p.m. - **Germaine Krull: Photographer of Modernity, Kim Sichel, Boston University, Dept. of Art History.** Open. More info: Call The MIT Press Bookstore at 253-5249. Email books@mit.edu. Web: <http://mit-press.mit.edu/bookstore/events/>. Rm 4-231.

Friday's Events

6:00 p.m. - **Graduate Christian Fellowship Meeting.** "Sharing the Experience" - music, prayer, and testimonies on "What has God been doing in my life recently?". Student Center W20-491. Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship.

7:00 - 12:00 p.m. - **MIT Anime Show.** 4 episodes of our primary series: Nadia; 2 episodes of our secondary series: Serial Experiments Lain; feature anime: TBA. Up-to-date schedules at <http://web.mit.edu/anime/www/mitanime.html>. Admission 0. E51-345. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

8:00 p.m. - **A Midsummer Night's Dream.** Co-directed by Lisa Wolpe, artistic director of Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare group and Sarah Hickler. \$8 general admission. Admission 6.00. Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

9:00 p.m. - **Potluck Performance Art Party.** AKA show+tell. Bring video, poetry, slides, anything to read, show, perform and/or consume. N52-115. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

12:30 p.m. - **Preparing for a Baby, Part III, Betsy Ross, A2Z Psychotherapy.** Preregistration is required; call x3-1592. Open. More info: Call Family Resource Center at 253-1592. Email frc@mit.edu. Web: <http://web.mit.edu/personnel/www/frc/>. Rm 16-151.

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Stipends for Research Assistants Increase Six Percent

By Mike Hall
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Stipends for graduate research assistants will increase for the 2001 fiscal year to compensate for the ever-increasing cost of living in the Boston area.

The Academic Council has recommended to MIT that RA stipends be increased by six percent, bringing RA's closer to the pay level of teaching assistants.

Two of MIT's five schools have already accepted the recommendation with minor modifications. The School of Science approved a 6.12 percent increase for all graduate students, while the School of Engineering increased stipends by 6.03 percent for doctoral students and 5.96 percent for master's students.

Departments can adjust stipends

Dean for Graduate Students Isaac M. Colbert said that individual departments can adjust the raises by as much as ten percent. The adjustments would not require outside approval.

The Department of Material Science and Engineering, in fact, has already increased RA stipends for master's and doctoral students by 5.96 percent and 6.03 percent, respec-

tively. TA stipends in the department increased by only three percent.

The recommended raise is only slightly above the increase in cost of living, which rose two percent in the metro Boston area this year.

Housing shortage forces increase

Since rent control's termination in Cambridge several years ago, housing costs in the area have increased dramatically. Vice President and Dean for Research J. David Litster cited such rising costs as a major justification for the RA stipend increase.

Litster expected most departments to increase stipends in accordance with the recommendation. Graduate Student Council President Luis A. Ortiz G agreed and applauded the increase.

"The faculty and senior administration have been convinced that this is a significant issue for recruiting new students," Ortiz said. The increase will also help maintain a reasonable quality of life for continuing students." Ortiz encouraged all schools to adopt the recommendation, calling cost-of-living adaptation a "universal need."

Colbert added that MIT is trying to improve further improve living

and research conditions for RAs.

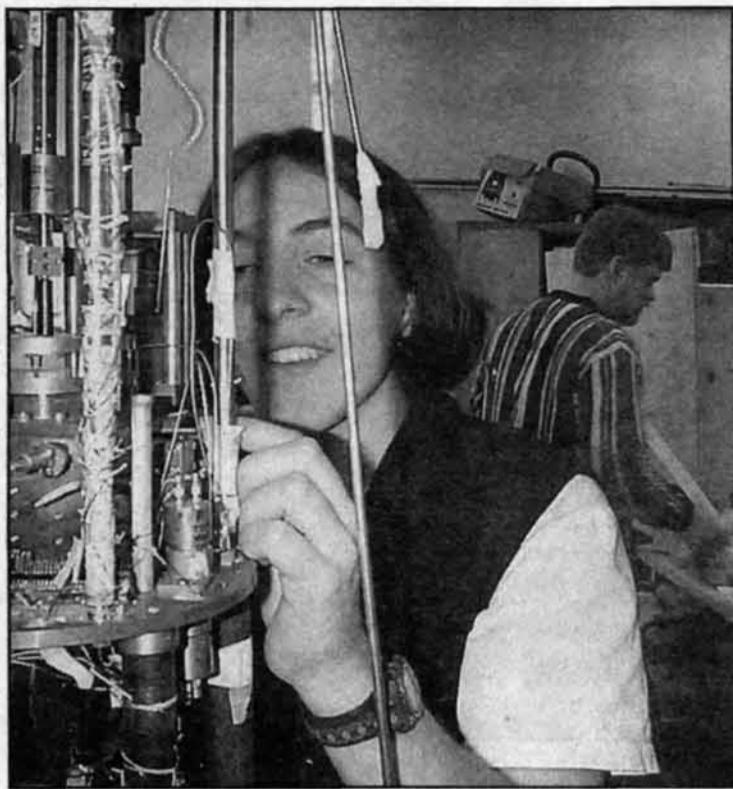
"The Provost has reduced the cost of RAs to researchers' contracts by fully subsidizing summer term tuition as of this coming summer, resulting in savings of about \$8,600 per RA," Colbert said, adding that the new benefits aid MIT in recruiting graduate students.

MIT is also planning the construction of additional graduate housing in the residence system alleviate the housing expenses. Most recently, the administration proposed converting NW30 to graduate housing.

Tax changes prompt stipend raises

In addition to the cost-of-living increase, a change in the taxability of stipend money contributed to the Academic Council's decision. Colbert said that a change in MIT's accounting system allowed RA funding, which was formerly exempt from tax withholding, to be treated in the same manner as TA funding. TA stipends are treated as salary expenditures and are eligible for tax withholding.

"There was some justification for paying [TAs] at a higher rate to reflect the real tax withholding burden," Colbert said, adding that withholding for both groups has rendered that justification invalid.



FIONN S. DAMDAR

Carolyn Phillips, Master's Student in Mechanical Engineering (pictured with the Superfluid Sterling Refrigerator at the Cryogenics lab) will be one of the students benefiting from increased stipends for Research Assistants.

POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Campus Police between February 12 - March 1, 2000. This summary contains most incidents reported to Campus Police but does not include incidents such as: medical shuttles, ambulance transfers, false alarms, general service calls, etc.

Feb. 12: Memorial Dr., report of woman screaming, area checked unable to locate problem; Bexley, report of intoxicated student causing problem, alcohol citation issued for consumption or possession of alcoholic beverage by person under 21; Bldgs. 10, 24 and 36 vending machine broken into; Bldg. E25, male arrested for trespassing; rear of NW21 and NW12, check and inquiry of two individuals; Bldg. 24, coat and backpack stolen, coat and backpack later found minus camera and calculator \$195; 33 Mass. Ave. check an inquiry of person; Bldg. E55, noise complaint; Bldg. W34, several hang-up calls on 100 line, check of area no problem found.

Feb. 13: Boston, Lambda Chi Alpha, noise complaint; Next House, report of a party problem, alcohol citation issued for alcohol citation issued for consumption or possession of alcoholic beverage by person under 21; Bldg. 56, small radioactive spill; Baker, report of persons possibly stealing chairs, check of area negative; Pacific Lot, hang-up calls for 100 line, no cause found; Bldg. NW30, suspicious vehicle, checks out okay.

Feb. 14: Bldg. 18, laptop computer stolen \$2,000; Burton, wallet stolen from room \$20 cash and credit cards; Bldg. 16, TV and VCR stolen, unknown value; DuPont women's locker room, coat, \$100 cash and jewelry stolen; W20, report of MIT computer system being hacked.

Feb. 15: Ashdown, report of harassing e-mail; Bldg. 16, suspicious person reportedly pushing a custodial cart and individual is not a custodian; Bldg. 36, report of brief case stolen \$150, not stolen only misplaced; Bldg. 5, suspicious package, checks out okay; Bldg. 66, safety hazard; Senior House, passerby reports laser pointed at her.

Feb. 16: Bldg. 4, 1) laptop computer stolen \$2,529; 2) suspicious person, trespass warning issued; Bldg. 10, coat and wallet stolen, it was discovered to have been taken by mistake and returned to its right owner; Boston, student approached by a suspicious male known to this Department; Bldg. 15, check on an event; Bldg. E52 and Herman garage, complaint of dog in area, Cambridge Animal Control took same; W20 turn around, suspicious vehicle, checks out okay.

Feb. 17: Wadsworth and Amherst Streets, elderly male disoriented, medical assistance provided; Hayden Library, wallet with \$30 cash stolen; DuPont, \$100 cash stolen from wallet; Bldg. E51, student problem; Amherst Alley, suspicious vehicle.

Feb. 18: Bldg. 4, report of computer stolen \$2,500, complainant called back stating computer not stolen; Bldg. W34, 1) report of vehicle hitting fire lane pole; Vassar St. report of hit and run accident, assist Cambridge Police; 2) male arrested for trespassing; Bldg. W32, report of vehicle stolen, vehicle not stolen miscommunication; Student Center, report of sus-

picious person; assist State Police vehicle accident at Memorial Dr. and Vassar St.; Bldg. E19, report of light bulbs and \$20 cash stolen; DuPont, male refusing to leave, trespass warning issued; Theta Delta Chi, throwing snowballs from roof.

Feb. 19: Bldg. 7, vandalism to bulletin board; Baker and Ashdown, noise complaint; Boston University Police report students throwing snowballs on Bay State Road; Bldg. 56, report of homeless person in rest room; Bldg. E55, report of suspicious person.

Feb. 20: East Campus, report of fight about to start; Bldgs. 24 and 66, suspicious activity; Whitehead Institute, well being check.

Feb. 21: Senior House, report of lights being broken in hallway; Boston, Theta Chi, report of students throwing ice at vehicle; Bldg. 42, suspicious vehicle; Bldg. 4, suspicious activity; Bldg. 2, check and inquiry, trespass warning issued; Bldg. NW21, check and inquiry; Memorial Dr. assist State Police with an arrest; McCormick, report of an assault.

Feb. 22: Westgate lot, report of '88 Honda stolen, recovered at Pat's Tow; McDermott Court, hack; Bldg. 3, damage to bulletin board; Bldg. 24, roller stolen \$25; Boston, Phi Sigma Kappa, cell phone stolen \$100; Bldg. NW14, malicious damage; Student Center, ID and \$6 cash stolen; Memorial Dr. assist State Police with suspicious person; Mass. Ave. assist Cambridge Police with pedestrian struck.

Feb. 23: Bldg. E19, light bulbs and cash stolen; East Campus, hateful and harassing e-mail; Bldg. 2, suspicious person, trespass warning issued.

Feb. 24: Bldg. E23, past incident of suspicious person; New House, suspicious persons, gone upon arrival.

Feb. 25: Mass. Ave., suspicious female asking for gas money; Student Center, wallet stolen \$5 cash and contents; Bldg. 18 suspicious person taking food from refrigerator.

Feb. 26: Bldg. 64, suspicious activity, checks out okay; McCormick, annoying phone calls; Burton, noise complaint; Boston, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, noise complaint.

Feb. 27: Edgerton and Tang Hall, noise complaints; Phi Beta Epsilon, party problem; Bldg. W31, report of past threats; Ashdown, suspicious person.

Feb. 28: Bldg. 4, laptop computer stolen, \$2,500; Bldg. 54, backpack stolen \$255; Memorial Dr. assist State Police with person who might harm herself.

Feb. 29: Bldg. NW30, homeless people, assisted to shelter; Bldg. 12, suspicious vehicle, advised to shut engine off; Student Center, blue print of Batman house stolen; Bldg. 7, backpack stolen \$20.

Mar. 1: MacGregor, Maurice Samuels arrested for trespassing; West Garage, animal complaint; Bldg. 54, CD player stolen \$150; Bldg. W59, check and inquiry, trespass warning issued; Bldg. W34, check and inquiry, trespass warning issued; Bldg. NW30, 1) suspicious vehicle checked out okay; 2) rear of NW30, check and inquiry, trespass warning issued; Bldg. E53, complaint of bicyclist on plaza, left before MIT CP arrival.

RED MEAT

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For more information, an application, or the CCRR Resource Guide, contact:
Dean Ayida Mthembu (mthembu@mit.edu, x3-4861)
or Elizabeth Connors (econnors@mit.edu, x3-0764).



MIT Committee on
Campus Race Relations

UNDERGRADUATES NEEDED
to participate in meetings for
NEWLY ADMITTED STUDENTS

during Spring Break 2000 in the following locations:

State	City	Meeting Day	Meeting Date	Time
CA	Los Angeles	Saturday	March 25	10:30 am
CA	Orange County/Anaheim	Thursday	March 23	7:30 pm
CA	San Diego	Thursday	March 23	6 pm
CA	San Francisco/Lafayette	Saturday	March 25	1 pm
CT	Fairfield County/Riverside	Saturday	March 25	4 pm
DC	see Fairfax, VA	Saturday	March 25	2 pm
FL	Ft. Lauderdale/Hollywood	Wednesday	March 22	7:30 pm
FL	Miami	Thursday	March 23	6 pm
FL	Palm Beach/Jupiter, FL	Thursday	March 23	6:30 pm
FL	Tampa	Thursday	March 23	6:30 pm
GA	Atlanta/Marietta	Thursday	March 23	7:30 pm
IN	Indianapolis	Thursday	March 23	7:30 pm
MA	Framingham	Sunday	March 26	2 pm
MA	Marlborough	Wednesday	March 22	7 pm
MD	Columbia	Wednesday	March 22	7:30 pm
MO	Kansas City	Thursday	March 23	7 pm
MO	St. Louis	Saturday	March 25	2 pm
NJ	Essex County/Livingston	Thursday	March 23	7 pm
NJ	Monmouth County/Manalapan	Thursday	March 23	7 pm
NV	Carson City	Thursday	March 23	6:30 pm
NY	Long Island/Stony Brook	Friday	March 24	7:30 pm
NY	New York City	Thursday	March 23	7 pm
NY	Rochester	Wednesday	March 22	6 pm
NY	Troy	Saturday	March 25	10 am
NY	Westchester County/Larchmont	Saturday	March 25	1 pm
OH	Cleveland/Brecksville	Thursday	March 23	7:30 pm
OH	Dayton	Wednesday	March 22	5 pm
OK	Tulsa	Thursday	March 23	7 pm
PA	Philadelphia/Essington	Sunday	March 26	11 am
PA	Pittsburgh	Thursday	March 23	7 pm
TX	Fort Worth	Wednesday	March 22	7 pm
TX	Houston/Katy	Thursday	March 23	7:30 pm
TX	Rio Grande Valley/Palm Valley	Saturday	March 25	9 am
TX	San Antonio	Thursday	March 23	6:30 pm
VA	Fairfax	Saturday	March 25	10 am
VA	Newport News/Yorktown	Wednesday	March 22	7 pm
WA	Seattle/Redmond	Wednesday	March 22	7 pm
WI	Milwaukee	Wednesday	March 22	7 pm
	Toronto, Ontario CANADA	Friday	March 24	7 pm
	Mexico City MEXICO	Thursday	March 23	8 pm

For directions and more information, please check the Spring Meeting website:
<http://web.mit.edu/admissions/springmeetings/>

Fiorina Adds Variety To List of Speakers

Fiorina, from Page 1

Koffi A. Annan '72, and Vice President Gore.

Barra thought last year's address by Tom and Ray Magliozzi lacked relevance. "I think perhaps last year's speech ... tried to deliver a 'get a life' type of message for MIT students, and I think we really don't need to hear that."

Barra also noted that Fiorina was "unanimously the committee's top choice," especially since she is a Sloan graduate.

Departure from recent speakers

Last year, Tom and Ray Magliozzi, "Click and Clack" of National Public Radio's "Car Talk," addressed the Class of 1999. Tom Magliozzi graduated in 1958 with a degree in economics while his brother took a humanities degree in 1972.

Recent commencement speakers have also included President Clinton, AIDS pioneer Dr. David Ho, United Nations Secretary General

Fiorina will be the fourth woman to speak at commencement. Previous speakers included former University of Chicago President Hanna Gray, former congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, and CEO of the Washington Post Company Katherine Graham.

Fiorina climbed corporate ladder

Last summer, Fiorina became President and CEO of Hewlett-Packard, the world's second-largest computer maker. Four years ago, she led Lucent Technologies' initial public offering and subsequent spin-off from AT&T, after which she became president of Lucent's global services group. She originally joined Lucent as an account executive.

Fiorina currently serves on the boards of directors of the Kellogg Company, Merck and Co. Inc., and the U.S. China Board of Trade.

Previous Commencement Speakers

1999	Tom and Ray Magliozzi (Radio personalities Click and Clack)
1998	David Ho (AIDS researcher), William J. Clinton (President)
1997	Kofi A. Annan MS '72 (UN Secretary General)
1996	Al Gore (Vice President)
1995	Hanna H. Gray (President emeritus of the University of Chicago)
1994	The Aga Khan (Religious leader of the Shia Ismaili Muslims)
1993	Carlos Salinas de Gortari (Mexican President)
1992	Les Aspin PhD '66 (U.S. Representative and Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee)
1991	Walter E. Massey (Director of the National Science Foundation)
1990	Virgilio Barco '43 (Colombian President)

MIT

Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar

presents

Professor William B. Quandt
Department of Government and
Foreign Affairs
University of Virginia

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4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

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Dartmouth Drops All Charges in Cheating Scandal

FROM UNIVERSITY WIRE

After the Committee on Standards heard only 27 of the 63 cases of alleged Computer Science 4 cheating, Dartmouth College announced today that it is withdrawing all charges brought against students by former visiting professor Rex Dwyer.

According to Dean of the College James Larimore, who served as non-voting chair of the COS, it became clear after more than 34 hours of hearings and deliberation that the body would be unable to distinguish with certainty between those who cheated and those who received the solutions to the homework from legitimate sources.

"The Committee concluded that some cheating did occur," Larimore wrote in a letter to the Dartmouth community. "But ... the nature and the quality of the evidence, combined with the circumstances under which the course was conducted, made it impossible to distinguish between those responsible and those not responsible for violations of the Academic Honor Principle."

Larimore told *The Dartmouth* in an interview tonight that the COS's discussion to drop the charges was based on two factors: academic integrity and fairness.

He also said that by the end of the session it became clear that fairness had to prevail and that they would not be able to distinguish who cheated.

According to Larimore, once the COS had approved the recommendation to terminate the proceedings against students the decision went to his office for approval from the College. He discussed it this morning with President of the College James Wright and Dean of the Faculty Edward Berger and the three decided it would be appropriate to end the hearings.

Larimore cited the issue of teaching assistants and graders giving out the answers as a large part of what made it so difficult to determine who was culpable, adding that there was evidence to suggest that some of the class tutors gave out the solutions on paper.

He also said that Dwyer's most explicit piece of evidence, server logs from the website that disclosed who may have viewed the source code, were not useful because they only tracked which computers had been used to view the site, not which individuals had actually viewed it.

Larimore told *The Dartmouth* that there was also the concern that some who had viewed the site and were listed on server logs had been clever enough to change parts of the downloaded solution and might thus avoid punishment although they had cheated.

[The Dartmouth, Mar. 13]

Michigan students to end siege

Students of Color Coalition spokesman Joe Reilly announced last night that SCC is in the process of ending its occupation of the Michigan Union office space on the seventh floor of the Michigan Union tower.

"The time is now to leave," Reilly said, adding that the group has done everything it could within the tower.

Reilly said SCC will leave the space after all Native American artifacts are returned members of the Native American community or placed in the Bently Historical



ROSHAN BALIGA—THE TECH

Andrew Pak '02 performs the Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 1 at the MIT Symphony Orchestra's performance on Friday night in Kresge Auditorium. MITSO, conducted by Dante Anzolini, also performed Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, Bernstein's *West Side Story*, and Ziporyn's *Pleasureville, Pain City*.

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Boston Evicts Two Fraternities

**Student Falls Short
In City Council Race**

Snowberg Receives 429 First Place Votes;
Bid Fails Despite Record Student Turnout

Core Blitz Presents
Class Info to Frosh

Michigan Students To End Occupation

Short Takes, from Page 19

Library. He added that the group has packed all personal items of Michigamua and plan on handing it over to Michigamua members.

"It's time for us to leave. We can't leave without the stuff," Reilly said.

After waiting for more than a month for Michigamua and the administration to remove Michigamua's Native American artifacts from its tower office, SCC last night said they decided the job needed to be done and took it upon themselves to see that the materials were removed.

During the removal process last night Michigamua members met with Dean of Student Affairs Frank Cianciola in the third floor of the Union to discuss the reallocation process. Also present were math Prof. Bob Megginson and Shannon Miller, coordinator of Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs.

"The concern we had was we were not contacted about the process," Michigamua spokesman Nick Delgado said. He added that Michigamua agrees that the Native American artifacts should be removed to the proper places but that the group wants to be involved in the decision.

"The SCC did not want us to be part of that process," Delgado said.

SCC member Colette Routel said the items are being reallocated to an undisclosed location.

[Michigan Daily, Mar. 13]

Meningitis concerns at GWU

George Washington University students and health professionals are taking a closer look at the dangers of meningitis after a recent death of a Towson University student in Maryland.

Towson University freshman Joseph Kemperle died March 5 of meningococcal meningitis. Kemperle's friends, members of his Kappa Sigma fraternity, and anyone he

came in contact with 10 days prior to his death were advised to take an antibiotic pill to quickly kill any bacteria that might be present.

The germ that causes the disease stays in a person's throat and is spread through contact with saliva and nasal mucus, said Dr. Isabel Goldenberg, director of Student Health Services at GW.

"The vaccine is the best we can do to prevent any outbreaks," Goldenberg said. An outbreak occurs when more than two cases of the disease appear in a community, she said.

GW Student Health Services offers a \$75 vaccine that guards against four of the five strains of meningitis. More than 2,000 students received the vaccine in November, Goldenberg said.

Although most vaccines give lifelong immunity to the disease, the one offered by GW Student Health Service only lasts three years, Goldenberg said.

Freshman Greg Rovick said a student in his high school died of meningitis, which prompted him to get vaccinated.

"Literally hundreds of kids in my high school went to go get it," said Rovick. "Most of them had never heard of it before."

GW junior David Portnoy said he decided to get the vaccine in November because of the high risk involved with living in a residence hall. "I hear it's more common among college students who live in dorms," he said.

More research has been done on meningitis in past years as a result of the increase in the number of outbreaks on college campuses, said Goldenberg. The studies found students who live in dorms, frequent bars and smoke cigarettes have a slightly higher risk of contracting meningitis, she said.

Susan Haney, nurse practitioner and educational director for Student Health, said there has never been a case of meningitis at GW.

[The GW Hatchet, Mar. 13]

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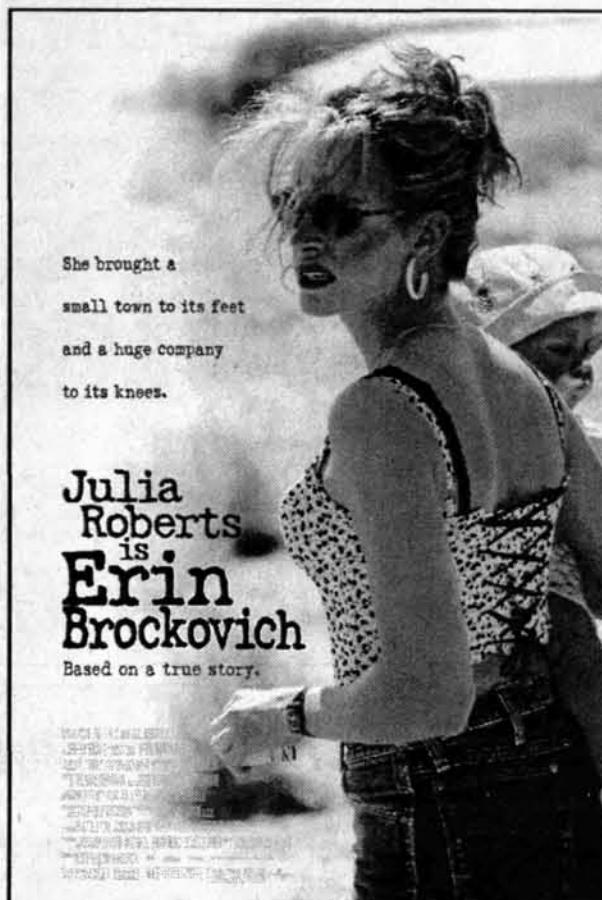
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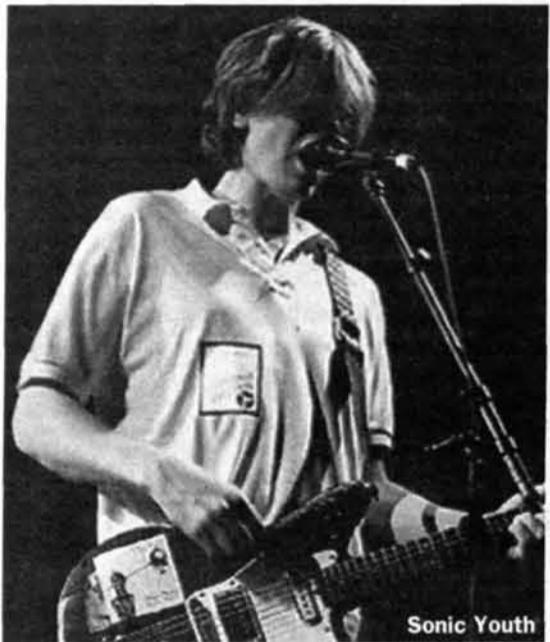
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International Fair, Lip Sync Integrated Into Spring Weekend

Spring Weekend, from Page 1

broad crowd.

"It brings the community together when the weather's nice," Heimburger said.

I-Fair showcases world cultures

Student groups representing many foreign cultures will come together during this year's International Fair. Last year, over 100 countries and 50 student groups were represented at the event.

The fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the Kresge Oval, ending just before Reel Big Fish takes the stage in Johnson.

Naveem M. Mowlah '03 said she expects a strong turnout because the I-fair should be "colorful and lively." Highlights of this year's event include booths for each student group, a cultural fashion show, and ethnic food.

Lip sync contest for charity

The Alpha Chi Omega sorority will again host its popular lip sync competition during Spring Week-

end. Proceeds will be donated to charity.

This year's beneficiaries will be the Cambridge Family and Children's Society and the MacDowell Colony, a charity dedicated to young artists.

AXO has moved its competition to the center of the Spring Weekend agenda. In previous years, the sorority held its event before Spring Break. "We're trying something new this year," said event co-chair Tracy C. Huang '01.

The event will be held on Thursday, April 27 in the Johnson Athletic Center. Tickets will be sold for \$4 in Lobby 10 and will cost \$5 at the door.

Groups of students will perform their songs, and a judging panel of professors and others will award prizes to the best teams.

Last year, the competition raised over \$2,000 for the Cambridge-based Bridge Over Troubled Water Foundation charity.

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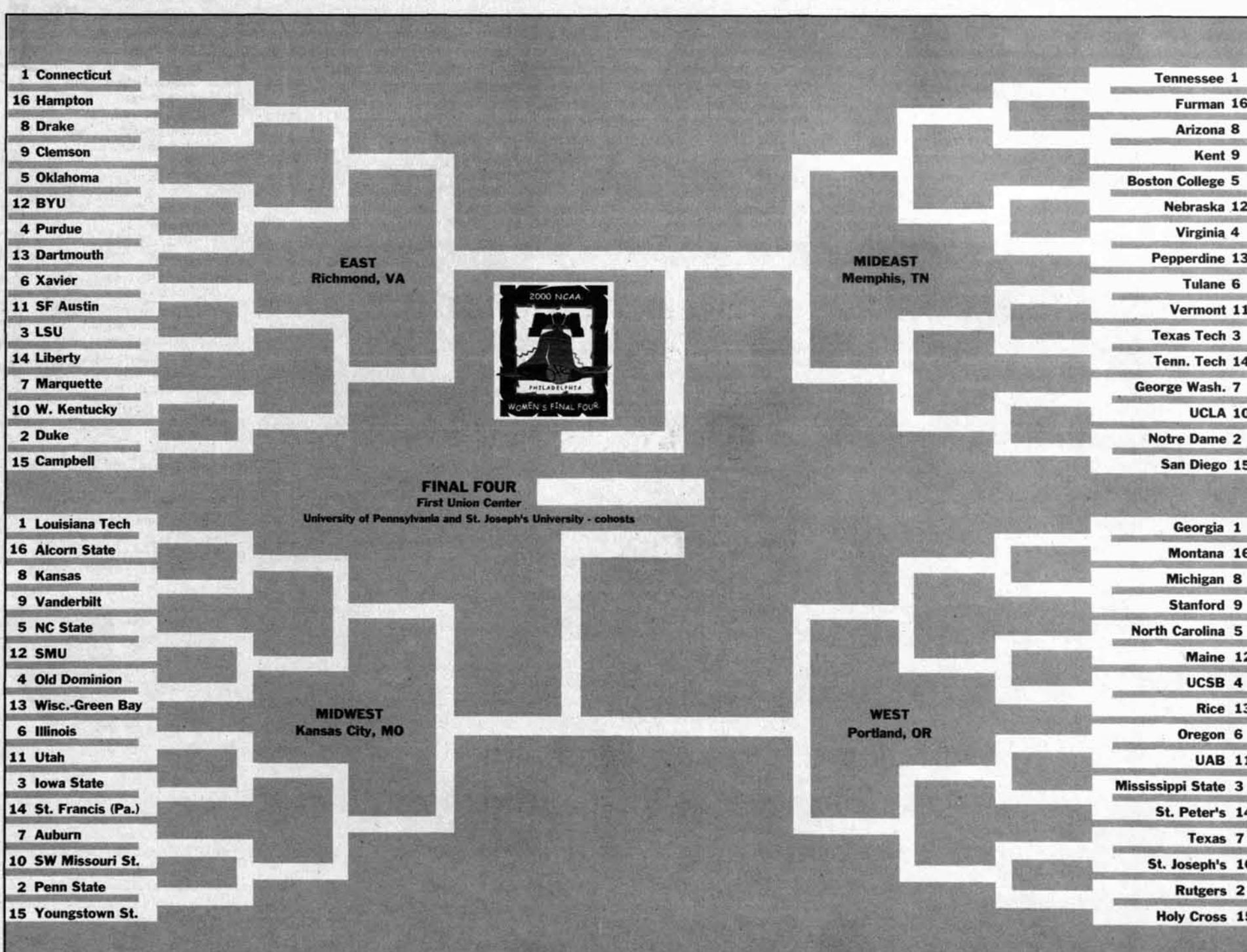
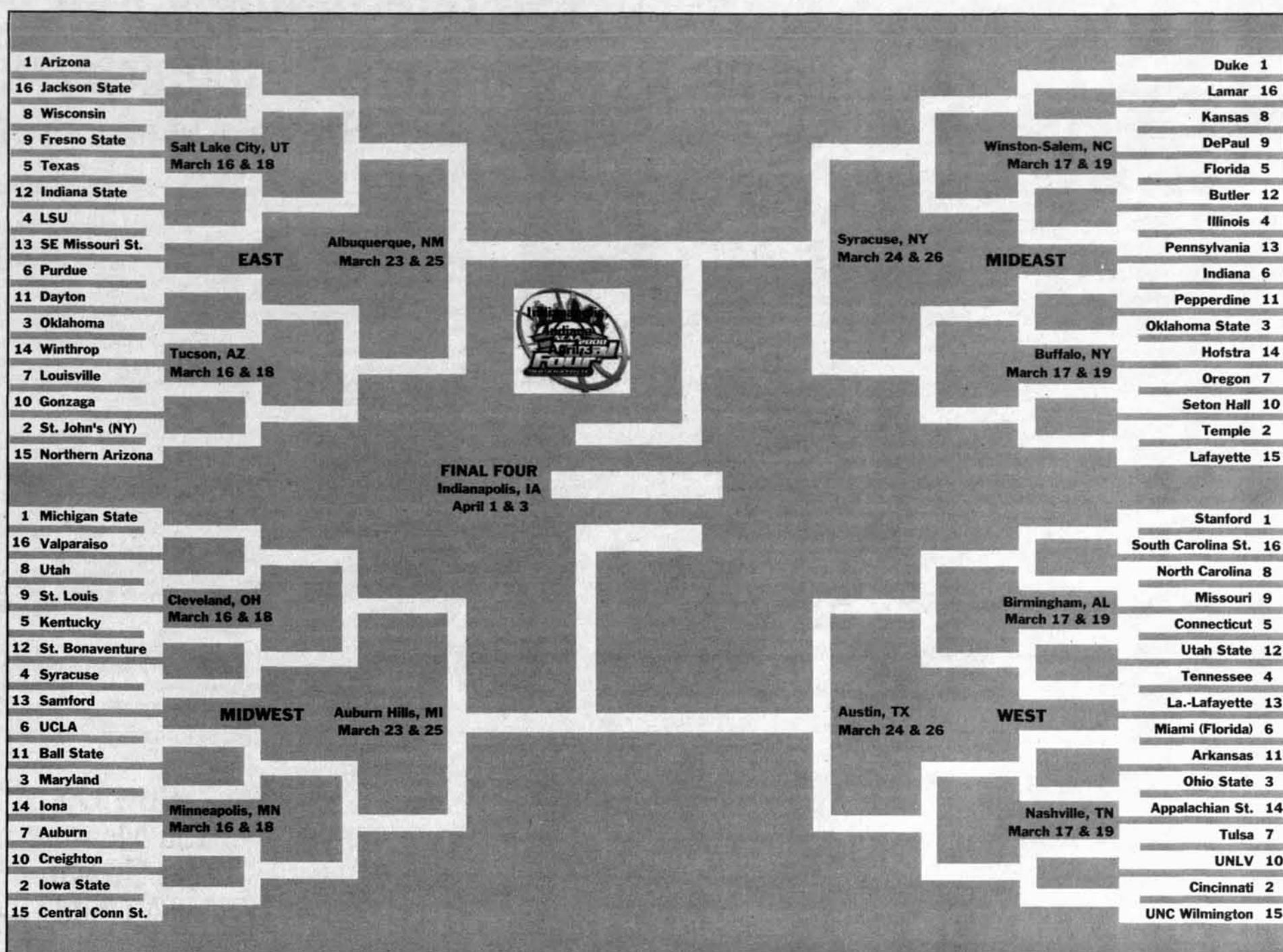
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SPORTS

Do Have All Your Picks Ready?

Let the Games Begin: March Madness Tips Off Thursday
Blue Devils, Cardinals, Red Storm, Spartans for Final Four

By Rory Pheiffer

March is in full swing, and that can only mean one thing: time for me and every other college basketball nut to

Analysis start putting work on the back-burner and devoting our efforts to a more enjoyable activity: March Madness. Yes, we all know how the NCAA basketball tournament works; avid fans spend hours on end tormenting over various match-ups, asking questions like which fourteen seed is going to pull the upset this year or should I really pick four number one seeds to advance to the Final Four? And in the end, some random person, who does not even know how significant Kenyon Martin's injury is to Cincinnati's or even who Kenyon Martin is, will win because he or she picked teams by their favorite mascots.

Frustrating? Yes. Does that stop us from spending countless hours analyzing the match-ups? Of course not. Well, if you have not heard enough analysis from self-proclaimed college basketball experts yet, here's just one more opinion for you to consider while filling out your brackets before Thursday. Today, I will analyze the Midwest and West regions for you, and then in Friday's edition I will evaluate the East and South.

Midwest matchups

Starting in the Midwest, Michigan State seems to have quite a test in front of them in order to make it to the Final four. Potential match-ups Utah and Kentucky are in the hunt for the regional final along with the Spartans. Taking a more in-depth look at the first round match-ups, I think it is safe to say that Michigan State, Iowa State, and Maryland will all make it through their first round matches. Syracuse, on the other hand, I'm not so certain about. Syracuse started off the year on fire, going 19-0. However, they are just 5-5 in their last ten games, and looked horrendous in their most recent setback to a very mediocre Georgetown team. Their opponent, Samford Bull-

dogs, should give Syracuse a tough time. If you are looking for a low seed to pull an upset, I would definitely take Samford.

St. Bonaventure is an intriguing at-large bid. Although I think they could pose a problem to many teams in the tournament, the Bonnies drew the toughest five seed in the field, the always tournament-tough Kentucky Wildcats. Look for Kentucky to advance to the Sweet Sixteen without too much difficulty. UCLA has been playing good ball lately, and the MAC teams are notorious for making nice runs in the tournament. Nevertheless, Ball State just does not have the talent to match-up against the Bruins. Auburn proved this past week, that even though they lost

The West bracket is the weakest. That leaves ample opportunity for teams like Gonzaga to make another miracle run.

Chris Porter, they can still play. They certainly deserved a higher seed than a sympathetic seven. Nevertheless, this means bad news for Creighton. Creighton pulled the upset last year over Louisville in this same position, but not this time.

Finally we have the eight-nine match-up featuring Utah and Saint Louis. One thing I have learned about the NCAA tournament, never bet against Rick Majerus. He is a great tournament coach, and his half court defense is tough to beat. Unless the Billikens catch a break like they did in the Conference USA tournament, i.e. Rick Majerus breaks his leg, the Utes will be facing the Spartans in the second round.

The second round match-ups in the Midwest do not seem to complicated to predict. I would go with Michigan State, Iowa State, and Kentucky all to find their way to the Sweet Sixteen. The last game left in the second round should be a very

entertaining game, but I have to go with Maryland here. They beat Duke in Cameron, and that alone says enough to me. To wrap-up the bracket, I see Michigan State facing the Cyclones from Iowa State in the regional final, though both teams will have very tough games against their respective opponents. In the end, the Michigan State Spartans should advance to the Final Four.

West matchups

The West bracket is definitely the weakest of the four brackets. That leaves ample opportunity for teams like Gonzaga to make another miracle run. Starting first with the easy ones again, Arizona, St. John's, Oklahoma, and LSU are all safe bets to win their opening round games.

My upset special in this bracket would have to be Larry Bird's alma mater, the Sycamores from Indiana State. Indiana State, if they can control the tempo, will really frustrate Rick Barnes' Texas Longhorns. Texas played in one of the toughest conferences this year, and finished second in the regular season, so in the end they should be able to pull it out. But if you are looking for a low seed to pick in this bracket, I would go with the Sycamores.

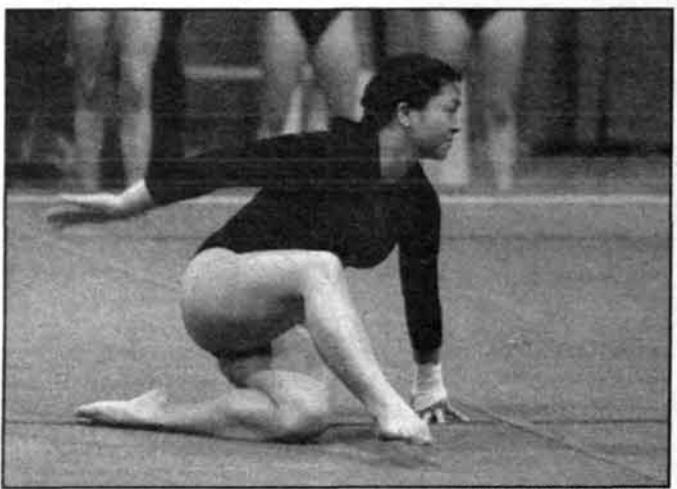
Purdue, also coming from a strong conference, should not have too much difficulty with Dayton. Dayton was 13-2 at home this year, but they are been shipped to the west for the tournament, and their trip should be a short lived one. Louisville and Gonzaga should be a very tight game, but I am partial to the 'Zags after their tournament run last year. Lastly we have Wisconsin and Fresno State. Tarkanian is a great coach, and his skills combined with the NCAA's leading scorer in Courtney Alexander should prove to be enough against the Badgers, who like Dayton, found much of their success at home.

The Sweet Sixteen should feature this regions top four teams in Arizona, St. John's, Oklahoma, and LSU. Arizona versus LSU should be a great game. Arizona has been dominant, beating Stanford twice this year. However, they have too much inexperienced youth, and typically young Arizona teams choke come around tournament time. That is why I am going to take the LSU Tigers in a close one. They should face St. John's in the regional final. The Johnnies played a tough schedule and won the Big East tournament. They have one of the best guard combos in college today between Bootsy Thornton and Erick Barkley (provided they aren't fighting with one another).

Last year I took the Johnnies as an underdog to the Final Four, and they almost pulled it off, losing to Ohio State in the regional final. Although they are not deep this year, being in the weak West region should help them out. The St. John's Red Storm is my pick for the Final Four out of the West.

Final Four

I will do more in-depth analysis of the other side of the brackets on Friday, but for those of you who are curious as to who my Final Four is, I have Michigan State, St. John's, Duke (I'm partial to the Blue Devils), and the Stanford Cardinals. Not a very daring Final Four, but daring does not always win. The finals should pit the Michigan State Spartans against the Duke Blue Devils (Duke will avenge their early season loss against Stanford). In the end, as a fan I will never admit to it, as an analyst I see the Spartans cutting down the nets in Indianapolis. With most of their losses coming with their heart and soul, Mateen Cleaves, on the sideline Michigan State has the talent and depth necessary to win a championship.



Stephanie Cheng '00 competes in the floor exercise last Saturday in the Eastern College Athletic Conference Division III Women's Gymnastics Championships held in DuPont. MIT placed sixth out of eight.

Women's Water Polo Sweeps Tournament

By Jeffery J. Colton

The rainy weather this weekend didn't stop the women's water polo team from defeating all three of its conference opponents. After a short three weeks of practice, the women hosted their first tournament weekend against Boston University, Wellesley, and Boston College.

The season started off well Saturday morning as the team took a 4-1 lead against Boston University in the first quarter with the help of Andrea Harsanyi '02 and Yihvan Vuong '03. The team continued to play strong defense and held off their opponents to a 6-5 win for their first victory of the season.

In the afternoon, MIT had their

second matchup against arch rival Wellesley College. Last year's loss still stung in their minds, but the past was put away when the game started. Wellesley proved to be no match for MIT's fast counter attack and strong defense. Team captain Harsanyi and freshman Jennifer Eppig both tossed in five goals as the Engineers dominated the game 15-6.

Sunday, MIT was up against Boston College in the final game of their tournament sweep. Right from the start, BC had no chance as freshman Yihvan Vuong lead the team to a crushing 17-7 victory.

New prospects Misty Benham '01, Carla Maria Pellicano '01, and Jennie Chochran '03 played well in their first ever water polo games this weekend.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, March 14

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Women's Lacrosse vs. Plymouth State College, 4:00 p.m.

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